

## Mrs Williams in clash with Mr Benn after jibe on 'coalition'

Mr Wedgwood Benn came under heavy fire on three fronts yesterday. Mrs Shirley Williams strongly disagreed with his analysis of the industrial outlook, while Sir Keith Joseph (page 3) likened him to Dracula. Mr Benn was also criticized in the Lords by Lord Warkinton, a CBI leader. Comments about the proposed guillotining of the Industry Bill.

## Investment dispute at NEDC

By Malcolm Brown and Maurice Corina

The growing left-right conflict within the Government has spilled into the open yesterday when Mr Wedgwood Benn became embroiled in heated exchanges with a fellow Cabinet minister, Mrs Shirley Williams, during the monthly meeting of the National Economic Development Council.

During the row, which the Chancellor, Mr Healey, as chairman, tried to keep on a low-key, Mrs Williams accused Mr Benn of "wanting a coalition government" to placate the private sector of industry. Industrialists and trade union leaders listened in the council chamber on the seventh floor of the Millbank Tower as the two Secretaries of State clashed over Mr Benn's interpretation of Labour's policy towards industry.

The row blew up during discussion on a confidential study of the problems of financing industry and the role of private capital.

Mrs Williams, Secretary for Prices and Consumer Protection, disagreed with a long analysis by Mr Benn of the future outlook for industry and how funds should be found to finance investment.

Mr Benn said political and public opinion about inflation meant that it would be a long time—perhaps indefinitely—before the private sector could expect to attain the kind of profits to enable it to generate the kind of investment programme needed to combat the contraction of manufacturing and to protect employment.

In these circumstances, the Government and the National Economic Development Council have to intervene actively because of the past failure of macro-economic policies to avert further contraction in the private sector.

At this point, Mrs Williams intervened to say that her opinion, much of the responsibility for present difficulties on investment were caused by major shifts of governmental policies from one administration to the next. She said there was an area of "industrial consensus" with a central core to economic management accepted by all parties to enable private industry to plan ahead with more confidence. This was essential, she said, to the success of the modern economy.

The exchanges then took an unexpected turn when Mr Benn stepped in to say that Mrs Williams and the council members that he wanted to make it clear that he dissociated himself from his Cabinet colleagues' view. Mr Benn then said, apparently, that Mrs Williams was "wanting coalition government."

As Mrs Williams flushed with anger at this remark, Mr Healey tried to close the discussion and move on to other matters. Mrs Williams then, it is understood, objected to the Chancellor's move, stating she wanted this issue cleared up. "I have never wanted coalition, I am not talking about coalition, and I have never talked about coalition," she declared.

Among those present during the acrimonious exchanges were Mr Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, Mr Harold Lever, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Mr Albert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, Mr Campbell Adamson, CBI director-general, Mr Ralph Barendse, CBI president, and Sir John Partridge, recently retired chairman of the Imperial Group.

Also present was Sir Money Finlayson, chairman of the British Steel Corporation, now engaged in exchanges of his own with Mr Benn.

Later, in an attempt to maintain government unity, Mr Healey managed to get Mrs Williams and Mr Benn to sink temporarily their differences.

Even as the Chancellor arranged the peace, the CBI was stepping up the pressure on the Prime Minister to curb Mr Benn and his Department of Industry. Mr Barendse, the President, sent a letter to Number 10, saying his organization was "extremely disturbed" that assurances given by the Government over Mr Benn's controversial Industry Bill had been rejected.

A Commons committee vote on Tuesday, rejected an amendment designed to reestablish a link between compulsory disclosure of information and company planning agreements—conflicts with previous assurances given by Mr Wilson and Cabinet ministers.

Post Office clash, page 17

## CBI threat of end to cooperation

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent

A grim warning went out to the Prime Minister last night as Mr Michael Foot, Secretary of State for Industry, announced that the leaders of British industry were near to reaching point in their relationship with the Government.

Lord Watkinson, chairman of the companies committee of the CBI, clearly speaking with the approval and backing of the confederation, gave notice that the private sector of industry could soon be driven into a policy of confrontation and non-cooperation with the Government, in which its "muscle power" would be used in the same way as trade unions were now using their power to achieve their aims.

Opening a debate in the House of Lords on the major economic problems facing the country, Lord Watkinson singled out Mr Benn and Mr Foot, the Secretary of State for Employment, for the most severe criticism.

Continued on page 3, col 6

## Guillotine on Industry Bill to be resisted

By George Clark, Political Correspondent

Strong opponents will be made by the Opposition in the Commons today when Mr. Lord President of the Council and the Government's chief business manager, announces that the committee proceedings on the Industry Bill are to be guillotined. The Government's aim to get the bill through the Commons against the EEC carried the brunt of the work. The task has now fallen largely on Mr Michael Meacher, Parliamentary Under Secretary.

The committee has just reached the much disputed section that requires the disclosure of information by companies, and there are more than 80 amendments and 14 new clauses and schedules to be debated.

Mps on both sides of the committee say, however, that progress has been made and Conservatives claim, that the Bill would in any event, have been out of committee by Wednesday.

Now needed to accommodate other important measures, such as the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Bill.

The Government's decision will doubtless be attributed to Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, who is in charge of the Bill. He has not been able to attend the committee continuously.

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From Peter Stratford, New York, May 7

Mr Eric Sevareid, one of America's leading television commentators, had a new prediction of doom for Britain on last night's CBS programme *Evening News*. Britain, he said, was "drifting slowly towards a condition of ungovernability", and "sleep-walking into a social revolution."

The analogy, in Mr Sevareid's view, was with the Chile of President Allende, and the backlash that came after it. Not, he added, that the backlash in Britain need be military, but "some kind of backlash is building up with no certain policy and no certain leader."

A similar line was taken a few days ago by the *Wall Street Journal* in an editorial entitled "Goodbye, Great Britain." The newspaper attributed Britain's troubles to "the welfare-state-morose Keynesian syndrome" and concluded: "Goodbye, Great Britain. It was nice knowing you. Since we're following down the same road, perhaps we'll meet again."

Like the *Wall Street Journal*, Mr Sevareid lays the blame on left-wing ideas. "Behind all this," he told his audience last night, "are the doctrinaire socialists, the true believers, for whom the picture in their heads is more real than the reality around them."

This is the text of what Mr Sevareid said: "The President will go to Brussels this month to tell the Atlantic allies that America's word is still its bond. He will also touch down in Spain, scene of a coming political transition. He will not visit Portugal, trying to find a new footing after a generation of authoritarian rule."

And he will not visit Britain, our closest ally, always regarded as the strongest and most reliable. But it's a serious question whether it can be so regarded any longer. It is not merely that her military strength is ebbing and her economic strength weakening but that Britain is drifting slowly toward a condition of ungovernability. It is now a debatable question whether Parliament or the great trade unions are calling the political tune.

The country, as one English writer puts it, is sleep-walking into a social revolution, one its majority clearly does not want but does not know how to stop. As a rough analogy, Wilson's Government is at the stage of Allende's Chilean Government when a minority tried to force a profound transformation of society upon the majority—not that the backlash in Britain need be military, but some kind of backlash is building up, with no certain policy and no certain leader.

In the last year, the cost of living rose some 21 per cent but average wages by 32 per cent, and worker productivity steadily falls, as does business investment. The City of London is financially broke. Property taxes rose by 75 per cent in

two years. Thousands of middle-class people move out of the city every year, like New York. Unemployment, Britain's special nightmare, rises steadily, and great corporations are insolvent, one after another.

Behind all this are the doctrinaire socialists, the true believers, for whom the picture in their heads is more real than the reality around them. One of the troubles with Marx was that he lived before Freud: human psychology was not his strong suit. The socialists persist in thinking that a worker in a nationalized factory will feel he owns it and will joyously work the harder. The opposite happens, for everybody's property is nobody's property and it is treated as such.

Their emphasis is on sharing wealth over producing wealth, on equality over liberty. The end of this is almost certainly the loss of the wealth and, less certainly, the loss of the liberties. It is no small matter that the regime is trying to force all British journalists,

editors included, into one monopoly union, sure to be dominated by what we call the radical chic and what they call the trendy left.

The powerful communist influence in trade union leadership is no longer disputed. What do they want? Not a communist Britain in the foreseeable future, much more likely a chronically weak, dispirited Britain, able to play no effective role in the world or the alliance. That would suit very nicely the long-range strategies of the Soviet Union.

© CBS News

Fred Emery writes from Washington: Mr Harold Wilson, at a press conference here tonight, disagreed with gloomy newspaper and television commentaries on Britain. He said the commentators were wrong and he added: "They don't seem to get much further than London's cocktail circuit."

Leading article, page 15

## An American wonders who is controlling a once-reliable ally, Parliament or the trade unions

### Britain is 'drifting slowly towards ungovernability'



The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh being received by Emperor Hirohito when they arrived last night for the banquet in the Imperial Palace in Tokyo.

## Tokyo gives the Queen big welcome

From Peter Hazell, Tokyo, May 7

Thousands of flag waving Japanese gave the Queen an unusually warm welcome today when she landed in Tokyo to become the first British monarch to visit Japan since the two countries first established tentative ties in the seventeenth century.

Accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, the Queen, wearing a simple lilac coat and hat, arrived at Haneda airport this morning.

The Queen, who will spend six days in Japan, arrived on the invitation of Emperor Hirohito who visited Britain in 1971. The Queen and the Duke were met by Sir Frederick Warner, the British Ambassador, under a clear blue sky.

After receiving a 21-gun salute at the airport the Queen was ushered to a black Rolls Royce and driven to the Akasaka Palace, the state guest house for visiting heads of state, to meet Emperor Hirohito.

After reviewing a guard of honour, comprising 120 officers and men of the Imperial Household Guards, the Queen and the Duke were driven to the Imperial Palace, about one mile from the state guest house. They were greeted once again by Emperor Hirohito and Empress Nagako who showed the royal couple round the palace and gardens.

In contrast to the somewhat cold receptions given earlier to a number of visiting heads of state, including President Ford, thousands of Japanese lined the streets between the airport and the state guest house and the Imperial Palace to give the royal couple a most warm welcome.

Street lights and poles were festooned with British and Japanese flags and shop owners' associations had decorated the main shopping area, the Ginza, with British flags. The big department stores hoisted the Union Jack over sales counters to promote a campaign to advertise British goods.

## Business as usual in relaxed new Saigon

From Bernard Edinger, Reuters Correspondent who stayed behind after the surrender

Saigon, May 7

About 30,000 people gathered before the Independence Palace in Saigon today to celebrate the surrender of South Vietnam one week ago and to mark the twenty-first anniversary of the victory at Dien Bien Phu.

Standing on the palace balcony under a giant portrait of the late Ho Chi Minh, the 11-member military management committee which now rules Saigon addressed a colourful crowd waving banners and flags of the National Liberation Front.

The main speaker, General Tran Van Tra, the committee president, said today's rally marked the emergence into the open of the new city authorities who have been moving Saigon back to normal life in the last week.

There was no indication when the national authorities would appear, but foreign correspondents have been invited to a news conference tomorrow morning.

Shorn of the exception of those owned by Vietnamese who fled with the Americans, Saigon's streets bustled with activity. Business life is back to normal and there were reports that banks would reopen today, although there are fewer cars on the streets due to a petrol shortage.

The communists have erected loudspeakers in main squares, which begin blaring out revolutionary songs each dawn. Few people take notice. The average Saigon resident seems to believe that life will remain essentially unchanged under the communists. For their part, the new rulers are not acting in a fashion which would make anyone think otherwise.

Today's demonstration coincided with the reopening of communications with the outside world after a week-long blackout. During this time the approximately 120 foreign journalists, from 13 countries, who remained here, were able to work normally and travel freely in and around Saigon but were not able to send out reports. Correspondents were told only today by press officers that the Provisional Revolutionary Government that their dispatches could be sent abroad.

After decades of war, the new authorities last Monday urged the population to destroy the primary symbols of the old regime. The statue of two soldiers standing in threatening posture, which faced the National Assembly building, was duly and gaily pulled down.

Reporters who travelled outside Saigon to My Tho and other places in the Mekong delta said they were well received everywhere and there was little sign of fighting. The area is so littered with abandoned equipment of the old regime's armed forces that one road has been dubbed Helmet Highway and another Band-Aid Avenue.

The communists have apparently told troops of the old regime they could return to their homes if they abandoned their uniforms. So far no reporter here in prowls round the city, has found any evidence that prisoners are being detained. General Minh and other former leaders are free and living at their homes in town. Some have told correspondents that they have been offered jobs with the new regime.

Vietcong guerrillas troop into the hall of the Caravelle Hotel in central Saigon every night to watch television. With them sits an American stranger who joins the barfoot guerrillas in laughing at the television cartoons of former President Nixon.

The atmosphere is still very relaxed. British journalists yesterday were principally occupied in making sure that the British Consul's residence—with its all-important swimming pool—was accepted by the new authorities as the British Press club.—Reuters.

## Universities could sell treasures, minister suggests

Mr Prentice, Secretary of State for Education and Science, told a Commons select committee yesterday that universities could sell more than their share of treasures to cope with the wages of inflation. The idea that a university might have to sell its treasures to tide it over did not strike him as outrageous, such a professor had told him with dismay of such a possibility, but a headmaster of a comprehensive school in one of the poorer cities might reply that it was about time, too, the minister suggested.

## Mr Wilson expresses confidence in America

Mr Harold Wilson met President Ford in the White House yesterday and afterwards expressed the Government's "full confidence" in the United States. Britain's application for joining rights for Concordia at Kennedy airport, discussed at the meeting, together with a forthcoming referendum on British membership in the European Community.

## Mr Scanlon gets more

Mr Hugh Scanlon, president of the National Union of Engineering Workers, said a 14 per cent pay rise yesterday, only six months after his last increase. But his new salary of £5,000 a year is still comparatively low, Mr Labour Staff reports.

## sterling still weaker

A pound yesterday fell to its weakest level on the foreign exchange, its devaluation of 10 per cent compared with the 1948 level. The pound closed at 23.5 pence, down from 23.3 pence on Tuesday. On the London stock market, a good rally after 2500 rights issues. FT index closed 118.8 higher at 19.

## 'Europe the best buy'

The Consumers' Association believes that "Europe is the best buy". Mr Peter Goldman, its director, said yesterday and the message in favour of British membership of the EEC is repeated in a foreword to the latest issue of the magazine *Which?*

## First Suez ships freed

After being trapped in the Suez Canal since the Six Day War in 1967, two West German cargo ships were the first vessels to be freed yesterday. They headed, under their own steam, for Port Said.

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## Leader page 25

On the Lords' decision on law of rape from Professor Glanville Williams, QC, and Mrs K. M. Fox, on housing policy from Mr Nicholas.

Leading articles: Is Britain ungovernable? The Commonwealth conference.

Features, pages 11 and 14: Dr Robert Jones on the ignorance and misunderstanding still clouding animal experiments; Ronald Barr on the select committee on abortion; Shopping, by Prudence Glynn.

Arts, page 9: Jeffery Daniels on Brighton Festival's "Gothic" exhibition; William Gamm on the exhibition on Chinese silk at the Victoria and Albert Museum; Irving Wardle reviews *The Sunshine Boys* at the Playhouse Theatre.

Obituary, page 16: Sir Howard Roberts.

Books, page 10: Ion Trevelin on being a lighthouse keeper; William Bailey on the Pro-Raphaelite; David Pryor-Jones on the final volume of Paul Scott's *Indian Quartet*.

Sport, pages 6 and 7: Racing: Super Nova wins Chester Cup; prospects for today's Chester and Epsom races; Golf: Carl Mason makes good start in Pictouville Medal tournament.

Business News, pages 17-23: Financial Editor: The Prudential's rights; what does "true and fair" mean? J. Salisbury reflects the pressures of 1974. Peter Jay Column: Lessons to be learnt from economic cycles. Business feature: The prospects for America of exploiting its shale oil resources are examined by Frank Vogt.

## Mrs Stonehouse speaks of 'schizoid' personality

By Michael Horsnell

Mr John Stonehouse has been suffering from schizoid personality and blackmail by business colleagues drove him to fake his death and disappear last November, his wife, Barbara, said in London yesterday.

She said Mr Stonehouse, Labour MP for Walsall, North, firm wanted to return to Britain but could not do so for more than a month because of legal complications over the extradition proceedings against him. He was "in a cleft stick".

The Commons select committee, which on Tuesday recommended that a motion to expel him from the House would be justified, had suggested he should be given a month to attend the House or resign. But the next extradition hearing in Melbourne was on May 26.

Whatever happened then, he had to stay for an appeal period of 15 days whether he appealed or not. There was no way physically he could get back in time.

Mrs Stonehouse criticized the select committee for not taking the legal complication into account before allowing her husband a month to return. She blamed it for not appointing a doctor to examine him.

He was getting better but was still under great pressure. "His doctors would like to give him a year's rest, and there is no hope of him recovering in the normal decent way."

Speaking of her husband's behaviour before his disappearance last November, Mrs Stonehouse said: "After all this time I believe he was schizoid. He was undergoing tremendous change over a period of time. This is something that the psychiatrist has been analysing over the past few months. There have been various factors which made him break down, factors which I was not aware of at that time. He was short tempered from time to time, subject to mood swings."

Continued on page 2, col 4

## More big London fare rises on the way

Another big rise in London's bus and tube fares is expected to be put forward at a meeting today of the Greater London Council's ruling Labour Party policy committee.

The committee will consider possibilities including increases of between 20 per cent and 47 per cent. The size of the increases, which will probably take effect in November or January, will depend on the level of subsidy from ratepayers.

London Transport fares went up by 30 per cent six weeks ago, yet even with that last increase, ratepayers and government grants are still subsidizing the bus and tube services by £130m.

British Rail passengers have already had two fare increases this year. A third before the end of the year cannot be ruled out.

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## HOME NEWS

# Left-wing success in fight for Civil Service union posts

From Peter Hennessy  
Margate

The left wing of the Civil and Public Services Association won a tactical victory yesterday when the association's annual conference in Margate confirmed the appointment of Mr Alastair Graham as assistant general secretary and Mr Clive Bush as editor of the association's journal, *Red Tape*.

After a heated debate, Mr Graham's appointment to the £7,000 post was confirmed by 113,298 votes to 89,168.

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from the Department of Employment headquarters, Watford, said: "This is a political issue. It arose from last year when a collection of Communists and Trotskyists, Marxists and International Socialists and a few well-intentioned Labour lefties gained positions on the national executive committee."

After his confirmation, Mr Graham said: "I am not a Trotskyite. I have been a member of the Labour Party since I was 17. I am not a stooge of anybody."

The conference rejected a call to set up a political fund to sponsor parliamentary candidates. A motion was passed calling on government departments to pay the legal costs of officials assaulted in the course of their duty who wished to prosecute their assailants. At present, officials bear the cost themselves. Last year there were 1,200 assaults on government officials by members of the public.

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## Computers might help to clarify legislation that judges find difficult to understand Law framers must learn to write plainly, report says

By Penny Symon  
Political Staff

For the first time in 100 years, an official body has reviewed the way statutes are drafted to see how greater simplicity and clarity can be achieved.

The Committee on the Preparation of Legislation, under the chairmanship of Sir David Renton, QC, Conservative MP for Huntingdonshire, was the first of its kind to meet since a Commons select committee looked into the matter in 1875.

In its report, published yesterday, the committee says that its terms of reference implied widespread concern that much of our statute law lacks simplicity and clarity. It recommends computer-aided typesetting to improve accuracy.

The committee also recommends the use of the computer to check the consistency of the statutes and the lack of clear connection between various Acts bearing on related subjects are said to cause confusion and make it difficult to ascertain the current state of the law on any given matter.

This confusion is increased by the

practice of amending an existing Act, not by altering its text and reprinting it as a new Act, but by passing a new Act, which the reader has to apply to the existing Act and work out the meaning for himself.

The committee says that difficulty increases as the statute book continues to grow, with a prodigious mass of statute law being enacted each year.

The user of the statute book who turns to it for information about the way in which the law affects his rights and duties under the law. And this is an age, as we have pointed out, where the statute law has a growing effect on practically every sphere of daily life.

It was in MP's interests that bills should be presented in a form conducive to easy understanding.

The drafting of legislation is an exacting vocation which demands a high degree of intellectual ability, sound knowledge of the law, the ability to write good English, and an unlimited capacity for sustained hard work. The committee does not think that the present system of individual and lawyers with such gifts will have other attractive opportunities for advancement in their profession.

The shortage of draftsmen is one of the main obstacles to the improvement of the form and clarity of

legislation, and we recommend that all available methods should be used to recruit and train more draftsmen as a matter of high priority.

The committee recommends that in principle the interests of the ultimate users should always have priority over those of the legislators. Statements of purpose should be in a clause, not in a preamble. Dense blocks of type were indigestible.

Much difficulty arose because provisions relating to a given matter were found not in one self-contained Act, but in a series of Acts, probably scattered among separate annual volumes.

The committee recommends that the pace of consolidation should be accelerated, and the possibility explored of recruiting and training for consolidation work lawyers with the necessary aptitudes who had not had the full training of parliamentary draftsmen.

The committee warmly approves of the increasing readiness of governments to produce Green or White Papers in advance of legislation, and recommends that this practice should be still further extended.

Computer typesetting would speed the printing of public Bills at all stages, and would make it easier and quicker for the printer to produce marshalled lists of amendments, and to incorporate those that were accepted in successive reprints. It would also lead to greater accuracy, and would make for the ready incorporation of the enacted texts into a comprehensive data base of statute law.

Nevertheless, the committee recommends that the basic provisions affecting most areas should be framed in relatively simple terms, and that detailed provisions should be made easier to understand by the inclusion of broad statements of Parliament's intention.

The preparation of legislation, Report of a Committee set up by the Lord President of the Council, (Command 6053, Stationery Office, £2.45p.)

## Killer 'did not ask for hospital admission'

Miss Patricia West, a social worker who was blamed for allegedly turning away a man from a mental hospital, the day before he killed a woman, was sent to Broadmoor for the manslaughter of a woman and the attempted murder of two others.

At Sheffield Crown Court on Monday, Ronald Cobbert, aged 38, of Raven Road, Sheffield, was sent to Broadmoor for the manslaughter of a woman and the attempted murder of two others.

The court heard that the day before he stabbed the three women, Mr Cobbert went to the Whitely Wood Clinic, Sheffield, and asked Miss West to admit him because he felt he was about to do something terrible.

Miss West said she had no authority to admit him, and that she had called the police. She said she had no authority to admit him, and that she had called the police.

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## Solicitor is convicted over £2m land deal

From Our Correspondent  
St Albans

Richard Scholes, aged 32, a solicitor, who was said to own a Rolls-Royce and a Jaguar, but had only £82 in his bank account, was convicted at St Albans Crown Court, Hertfordshire, yesterday of taking part in a £2.4m land fraud. He will be sentenced today.

Joseph Smith, aged 61, his uncle, of Timeway, Egham, Surrey, jointly charged with him, was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment, suspended for two years, and fined £500.

Both men denied procuring the execution of a valuable security by deception, obtaining property by deception, and obtaining a pecuniary advantage by deception.

Mr Scholes, of Holme Island, Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria, denied fabricating evidence and five charges of perjury in the High Court. Mr Smith denied three perjury charges.

Mr Scholes was found guilty of two perjury charges. The jury had been told that the two men attended an auction at Royston Trian Hall, Hertfordshire, in June 1972, and bid successfully for the 2,435-acre Newells Park Estate near Royston. Mr Scholes said that he had left his cheque book at home.

Mr Scholes was found guilty of two perjury charges. The jury had been told that the two men attended an auction at Royston Trian Hall, Hertfordshire, in June 1972, and bid successfully for the 2,435-acre Newells Park Estate near Royston. Mr Scholes said that he had left his cheque book at home.

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## Two exclusion orders bring total to 50

By David Leigh  
The Home Office confirmed last night that two more men are to be deported under the anti-terrorism legislation, which the Government is to ask to be renewed next week. That brings the total served with exclusion orders to 50.

The two men, who have been held for the full seven days under the Act, were arrested leaving the ferry from Ireland at Liverpool at 6.30 am on April 30, and will be sent back to Ireland.

Mr Brian Morgan, spent three years interned at Long Kesh in Northern Ireland. He was released only five days before his rearrest in England. He says he came to England to visit his wife and child. He was arrested on suspicion of being a member of the IRA.

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## Ex-mayor tells of demand for money

Mr Maurice Byrne, a former Mayor of Pontefract, West Yorkshire, spoke at the coronial trial at Newcastle upon Tyne Crown Court yesterday of a visit to a London club and a brown



HOME NEWS

# Universities could sell treasures to beat inflation, minister says

By Pearce Wright  
Science Correspondent

Universities had more far on them than other sectors of education to cope with the ravages of inflation, Mr. Prentice, Secretary of State for Education and Science, told the Commons Select Committee on Science and Technology yesterday.

The idea that a university might have to sell its treasures did not strike him as outrageous. A dismayed professor had told him that a university might have to dispose of its pictures. A comprehensive school headmaster in one of the poorer cities might reply that it was about time, too.

Universities were taking more cuts than other sectors but he believed there had been scope for economists for some years. The ratios of lecturers to students were generous. If offered a choice of improving pupil-to-teacher ratios in secondary schools against

# Heads angry at delay in repairs to schools

Head teachers are to make the strongest possible protest to Mr. Prentice, Secretary of State for Education and Science, over the Government's delay in saying how much it will pay towards permanent repairs of schools constructed with high alumina cement.

The National Association of Head Teachers says estimates of the national bill for repairs could total more than £1,000m.

At the latest count, it says, 1,100 schools in England and Wales have been closed for the structure to be checked and 41 partially closed. Repairs have been completed in 443 others and about 150 are shored up pending the completion of tests or alterations.

The Department of Education and Science is uncertain about the total number of schools completely closed. Its latest figure, based on a regular check, shows 17 completely closed and 114 partially closed. Buildings declared safe after testing or repair work total 478 and 144 are shored up, it says.

One of the heads affected is Mr. Charles Lawton, a former president of the association. His school, Brinnington Secondary in Stockport, Cheshire, suffered damage that has already cost about £400,000 in temporary repairs, and its pupils are scattered over several sites.

Mr. Lawton says: "My school has had its heart torn apart. Heads and the local authorities have still not been told what safety rulings the Department of Education proposes for high alumina cement or what its final financial position will be."

He says that apart from repairs or restoration, enormous extra costs are involved in transporting children to temporary sites. "These disasters have done irreparable damage to the education of children in my school and other schools throughout the country."

Loan sanction is available to cover temporary repairs, but the association is demanding an early announcement on who is to pay for long-term repairs and restoration.

The Department of the Environment says a working party has been set up to examine the practical and financial implications of the use of high alumina cement. It does not know when the working party will report.

# Fewer Oxford graduates choose to be teachers

By a Staff Reporter

Many more Oxford graduates stay on for further academic study now than 20 years ago, but their chances of getting a job related to their specialized abilities are less than those who have studied for six or more years are remote.

The number of male graduates going into school teaching has declined greatly, chartered accountancy and local government have emerged as important fields of employment, but industry and commerce are attracting a lower proportion of Oxford graduates than in the early 1950s.

Those trends are disclosed this week in a new survey by Mr. M. J. Day, of Oxford University Appointments Committee. He compares the jobs taken by Oxford graduates in 1973 and 1953.

In 1953, he says, Oxford had about six thousand undergraduates and a thousand postgraduates. In 1973, the numbers were 8,000 and 1,000 respectively.

Students going on for further academic study were the largest single category in 1973. Demand for academic staff in universities and polytechnics, almost always the first choice for postgraduates, accounted for only a small proportion of the total. The rest would have made their living in some other way.

Mr. Day lays part of the blame for the decline in teaching candidates on reorganization of secondary schools and the abolition of some of the most successful schools.

In the following list the numbers entering the main employment categories are shown for 1953 and 1973:

Occupations	1953	1973
Academic staff	12	14
Civil service	10	15
Local government	10	15
Chartered accountancy	10	15
Industry and commerce	10	15
Teaching	10	15
Other	10	15

# 56 Labour MPs rebel

By Our Political Correspondent

Defying the Government whips, 56 left-wing Labour MPs of the Tribune group voted against the Government's defence estimates last night in favour of their own amendment setting out their demand for bigger spending cuts. They were joined by three Welsh Nationalists.

In fact, the Government has a vast majority. The vote was 489 to 57, the Liberals and Conservatives joining the rest of the Parliamentary Labour Party in supporting the Government.

These are the first left-wing votes to express their disapproval of the Government's defence estimates, which the Tribune group has been demanding for some time. The group, which includes 56 MPs, has been demanding for some time that the Government should cut defence spending by 10 per cent.

The Government's defence estimates for 1975-76 are £1,000m. The Tribune group's amendment would cut this to £900m.

# £20 bail for jailed journalist

Mr Gordon Ains, chief reporter of the *Daily Record*, Glasgow, who was jailed for contempt after refusing to break a secrecy pledge to a man the police claim was involved in the "Free Scotland" court case was freed on bail of £20 at Glasgow Sheriff Court yesterday.

He was committed in the High Court in Glasgow on Tuesday by the trial judge, Lord Keith. Yesterday Sheriff Middleton adjourned the case.

Mr George Stone, Glasgow regional organizer of the National Union of Journalists, said in a statement:

Mr Ains's action was in accord with the union's code of professional conduct and in the best traditions of journalism. It was a personal and extremely courageous decision.

Mr Norman Buchan, a former Labour Minister, said that the incident suggested that the time had come for the Scottish law officers to consider the issues raised in the case to consult with the journalists' professional organizations and others and to devise instructions or guidelines which would safeguard a journalist in such a position in future.

# Subsidy plan as aid to probation

By Our Legal Correspondent

A subsidy should be paid to the probation service whenever a young offender who would otherwise have been given a custodial sentence is instead placed under supervision, the Howard League for Penal Reform proposes in a report published yesterday.

The report, a comment on the proposals of the Home Office Advisory Council on the Penal System, says that because of their heavy case load, probation officers are often forced to recommend detention or curfew for young adult criminals.

Under the proposed scheme, the probation service in the area concerned would be given grants equivalent to the average cost of a custodial sentence for the length of time each offender would have been in an institution.

The money would be used for such projects as allowing the offender to learn basic survival and social skills.

Between Probation and Custody (Howard League for Penal Reform, 35p).

# 'Which?' warning on cold relief drugs

People should steer clear of two "cold cocktails" sold over the counter to relieve cold symptoms at night, although they have been approved by the Government's Committee on Safety of Medicines, the Consumers' Association magazine, *Which?*, published yesterday, says.

It is possible to have a cold without all the symptoms the medicines claim to treat, the magazine says, and the drugs could be more powerful than needed. Their sedative effect could make the user indisposed to some people.

The products are Max-Night-Nurse and Vick's Medinite. *Which?* is basing its report on a consensus from a dozen consultants and other doctors, says.

Then it raises a series of questions about these medicines:

- The medicines contain alcohol and antihistamine to induce drowsiness, and clear the nose. *Which?* says. They also contain a painkiller, and cough suppressant.
- Medinite has a drug for clearing blocked noses that probably only has a small effect, and which might keep people awake. It should not be taken by sufferers from certain forms of heart trouble or by people on antidepressants.
- Beecham and Richardson-Merrell, makers of the products, declined to comment because they had not seen the article.
- The Pharmaceutical Society pointed out that the products had been approved by the Committee on Safety of Medicines.

# 'Life' prisoner's plea rejected

Patrick Mahan, who is serving life imprisonment for the murder in 1969 of Mrs. Rachel Roes at her home in Ayr, failed again yesterday to get permission from the High Court in Glasgow to bring his criminal prosecution for perjury against policemen who gave evidence at his trial.

# Children die in fire

Wendy Axon, aged four, and her brother, Simon, were found dead yesterday after fire swept through a flat in Tabard Street, Southwark, London.

# Club 'no' to women

The annual meeting of the National Liberal Club in London yesterday rejected a motion to admit women to full membership.

# Minister urges more art sponsorship

By Kenneth Gossling  
Arts Reporter

If it could be demonstrated to companies that there were advantages in buying works of art for loan to public collections, the latter might have to look less often to the Exchequer for support in order to prevent export.

That is stated in written evidence to the Select Committee on the Wealth Tax by Mr. Jenkins, minister with responsibility for the arts. He says there are signs that companies are already, in the performing arts, making a case for sponsorship. His hope is that such a case could be made for the visual arts.

"If the pressure on government funds was thus reduced, the need for the acquisition of new buildings could be contemplated," he says, but points out that the capacity of public collections to accept new works of art is governed by the space and staff available.

Mr. Jenkins estimates that the market value of the works of art in private ownership is £3,000m. "While by no means all such objects would fall within the criteria of any conceivable export control, it is likely that a high proportion of the value represented by this figure might do so. This is a measure of the problem to be faced if there were a general rush to sell."

He continues: "If there were a general rush to sell, any consequent fall in values would, of course, make it much easier for local museums and galleries to acquire them."

He says that the desirability of encouraging pension funds and insurance companies to enter the art market was being discussed.

In some general conclusions the minister gives a warning

# Warning of threat to law-abiding society

From Our Correspondent  
Harrowgate

A warning that law-abiding society would be in jeopardy if justice went too far towards the interest of the individual came yesterday from Mr. J. Basil Horeman, President of the Justices' Clerks Society.

He told the society's annual conference at Harrogate that courts were under pressure for "oppressively interfering with the right of an individual to please himself," and said: "Punishment for wrongdoing is condemned by progressive thinkers as something that does not work."

Mr. Horeman added: "We have become familiar with the line of thought that if a mild form of punishment does not deter, then it is better to make it milder still. The fact that the disobedience rate is rising is disregarded or used only as an excuse for greater leniency. Should we not have more thought for the danger of being spoilt than for withholding the rod where its application and example would correct?"

Unless we keep our heads, keep our brains active, work out where we think we should be going, and how we are attempting to get there, and keep speaking for sense and just public will lose the benefit of what should be an informed, intelligent, moderate and trustworthy voice.

He said the real causes of crime were being ignored, and the search diverted to ways of relieving the wrong-doer of responsibility. He concluded: "The law exists to protect the honest and unselfish, the weak and helpless. Where there is no law, there is no protection—only the jungle."



The scheme that won Laycock primary school, Islington, London, *The Sunday Times*/Arts Council "Art in Landscape" prize seen taking shape yesterday. The chalk outlines, enlivened by this running pupil, will become coloured self-portraits of the children covering the outside and playground walls of the school.

# Mr Benn a Dracula, Sir Keith says

Sir Keith Joseph, Opposition spokesman with responsibility for policy and research, last night described Mr. Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, as the Dracula who was sucking British industry.

Sir Keith, speaking at a Centre for Political Studies meeting at Glasgow University, said Mr. Benn would destroy firms wholesale by job-saving subsidies.

Each job saved by subsidy destroyed a job somewhere else. Other firms would be pushed over the brink by the additional taxation and inflation. "Then Benn will rush in to help large ones, with strong union backing, in certain parts of the country," Sir Keith said.

But that will place a still heavier burden on existing firms and they will go down in turn, until the whole of the private sector is in ruins."

Sir Keith added: "You may remember the Dracula story. The vampires, according to legend, suck their victims' blood. When the victims die, they in turn become vampires, and repeat the process on others. We must stop this happening now, before it is too late, because if Benn has his way, there will be no industry left to draw on."

Workers priced themselves out of the market by unrealistically high wage demands, restrictive practices, overmanning

# Industry 'forced into confrontation'

Continued from page 1

Lord Watkinson spoke of the beleaguered feelings of the private sector of industry brought about by the "double talk" from Cabinet ministers that was totally destroying confidence between businessmen and their main sponsoring departments of state.

In talks with the Prime Minister he had attempted to impress on him the seriousness of the reaction among creditors and managers throughout industry to the violent political dogma which was so irrelevant to the present critical state of the nation.

Commending the courage of Mr. Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, for his outspoken analysis of the crisis, Lord Watkinson said that if trade unions

# 'Spine chilling' apathy on free press

A spine-chilling degree of apathy or naivety had been demonstrated by journalists over the stance by their union on the freedom of the press issue, Mr. D. R. W. Greenslade, incoming president of the Newspaper Society, the regional press publishers' association, said yesterday. He was addressing the society's annual meeting in London. He said:

Today powerful elements of union leadership are seeking to regroup their forces for attacks on private enterprise, fronts which have political

# Whitehall complaint about police questions

By Peter Hennessy

A senior official of the Department of Industry has lodged a complaint with the Assistant Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police about the interrogation of a higher executive officer in his department by police officers. They were inquiring into the leakage to the *Morning Star* last February of documents concerning the Queen's income.

The Society of Civil Servants, of which the officer is a member, has raised the matter with the National Council for Civil Liberties. Mr. Guy Barnett, Labour MP for Greenwich, is expected to raise the matter with the Home Secretary.

In a letter to Miss Patricia Hewitt, general secretary of the national Council, Mr. Gerry Gillman, general secretary of the society, alleged that his member, who is not named, was telephoned at his home by Scotland Yard officers on March 21 while on sick leave.

He was invited to visit Scotland Yard, where he was questioned for five hours and, Mr. Gillman alleged, was subjected to harassment by police officers which left him "in a state of shock."

The letter stated:

In the course of the interview he was called a liar and accused of passing on the information. The inducement was offered that if he confessed he would be treated lightly. But if he did not then there would be much more serious charges involving his family.

At no time was a caution given. We are satisfied that the police allegations are without foundation. At the very best intervention it seems that the police had been over-zealous on their part.

Since the Department of Industry lodged its complaint the Metropolitan Police have agreed that for the remainder of the inquiry staff called for questioning can have a friend present unless the police specifically ask to interview them on their own.

Scotland Yard has almost completed its inquiries into the case of the leak. Its report is expected to reach the Director of Public Prosecutions by the end of next week.

## Magee

for men who lead colourful lives

In today's colourful world appearances count for a lot. But Magee's mastery of colour is more than just outward show. Their clothes are the finest pure new wool, skillfully styled and carefully made up. The superb cut is apparent directly you slip on a Magee jacket. It looks and feels as if it was made for you. Look for the Magee label in suits, jackets and slacks in pure new wool. Magee slacks are durably creased.

Magee  
Masters of masculine colour



## EEC REFERENDUM



Sir Christopher Soames, EEC Commissioner for External Affairs, about to begin talks in Peking yesterday with Mr Chiao Kuan-hua, the Chinese Foreign Minister. Sir Christopher is the first Community official to visit China.

## Consumers told Europe best buy

By Roger Berthoud

The unequivocal advice of the Consumers' Association to British consumers is to vote for Britain to stay in the EEC. "We believe unambiguously that Europe is the best buy," said the association's director, Mr Peter Goldman, at a press conference in London yesterday.

The message was reiterated by Miss Eirlys Roberts, the association's deputy director, in a personal foreword to the latest edition of its magazine, *Which?* published today. "I think it would be wrong-headed and feel it would be disastrous to come out," she wrote.

The association had not always been so convinced of the merits of membership. Mr Goldman confessed three years ago he had described the neglect of the consumer in the EEC as appalling and demanded a new deal. He was surprised, even flabbergasted that so much notice had been taken.

Asked why the Consumers' Association had decided to enter the political arena by recommending a "Yes" vote, Mr Goldman said it would have been contemptible to remain silent after devoting three years of effort to the consumer's case in Europe, not unsuccessfully.

Miss Roberts attributed her advocacy of the EEC largely to her firsthand experience as director of the Bureau Européen

des Unions des Consommateurs (BEUC) and as a member of the EEC's consultative Economic and Social Committee, both Brussels-based. She said that before Britain's entry, experts—even supporters of EEC membership—had forecast that food prices might go up by as much as 13 per cent when Britain joined. In fact, the effect had been just about neutral.

EEC-induced increases in the price of meat, butter, beef, tinned fish, tinned fruit and citrus fruit had been balanced by reductions in pork and bacon, poultry, bread, biscuits, sugar, apples, pears and vegetables. This was partly because some world prices had soared above EEC levels, and partly thanks to EEC subsidies. She thought Britain neither could nor should expect to benefit any longer from cheap food from outside the EEC: there were too many people in the world who wanted it.

People in Britain had also been tremendously mistaken about harmonization within the EEC, she said. Most of that was optional, and designed to prevent member states from keeping out goods which conformed to certain accepted standards. It was true that some countries had wanted to impose obligatory standards for beer, but that had been dropped. So Britain would be able to make and sell any beer it liked at home, but would not be able to keep out German beer, for

example, if it fulfilled the EEC norms.

Mr Goldman said that the old line-up in the EEC of bureaucrats and business interests, which in the past had steam-rollered and circumvented the interests of shoppers, now found itself up against the making of a countervailing alliance of consumer interests.

The European Commission now had a properly suited directorate for consumer affairs, and in September, 1973, it had set a consumer consultative committee, later headed by a London solicitor, Mr Anthony Dumont, author of the Consumer Association's constitution.

Mr Dumont, who was present at the press conference, also thought there had been an enormous change in attitudes towards the consumer within the EEC. The British and Danish had been making the running. "Our future in Europe is not what they do to us, but what we do to us and with them," he said.

He thought a really wide front of consumers' interests was developing, and he had been agreeably surprised that continental trade unions differed from their British counterparts in being dogmatic fighters for the shopper. He was particularly happy at his committee's achievement in gaining the right to consultation before decisions were made in the agricultural and farm price field.

## WEST EUROPE

## East Germans to celebrate their Second World War 'victory' at massive ceremonies tomorrow

From Dan van der Vat Bonn, May 7

It has taken them exactly a generation to do it, but the East Germans are now about to emerge on the winning side of the Second World War.

The massively organized celebrations on Friday of the 30th anniversary of the end of the war will be far surpassing in scale even the ponderous jollifications which marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the state itself last year.

Meanwhile, official scribes retained by the East Berlin regime are milking away at the not inconsiderable task of re-writing history. This work is rendered particularly difficult by two facts—that half the population recalls the joy of the Soviet Army, and that many places in western and southern East Germany happened to be overrun, however briefly, by the Americans and the British.

Official sources are putting out their own adaptations of the old Soviet legend that the only meaningful contribution to the overthrow of Hitler was made by the Red Army.

Thus Herr Oskar Fischer, the East German Foreign Minister, said recently that the defeat of Hitler had proved the all-round superiority of socialism and set the seal on the world-historical defeat of imperialism.

The official communist party daily *Neues Deutschland* said this week: "We may count ourselves among the victors of history." The defeat of Hitler, it added, was a day of victory and liberation. Other publications speak of "the historic victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War and the liberation of the people by the glorious Soviet Army."

Friday's celebrations will in the main take place in Soviet cemeteries and round Army memorials. Herr Glimmer Gaus, West Germany's permanent representative in East Berlin, has found a cemetery for German soldiers at which to lay his commemorative wreath.

There are divided views in West Germany about how the fall of the Third Reich should be remembered. When President Scheel led a state act of commemoration in Bonn yesterday, the leader of the Opposition Christian Democrats in the Bundestag, Professor Karl Carstens, and the chairman of the party, Dr Helmut Kohl, did not attend, pleading previous engagements.

Charles Harroove writes from Paris: President Giscard d'Estaing took the salute tonight at Mourmelon camp, in the Marne, at an impressive parade to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of VE Day. Seven thousand men and 200 armoured vehicles were massed on the parade ground of the camp, including the 2nd Regiment of Dragoons, with which Corporal Giscard d'Estaing served in the last winter of the war in Alsace and in Germany.

Prague ceremony, page 5

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## Kidnapping victim held for not helping law

By Henry Stanhope Defence Correspondent

Greece boycotted a meeting of the Nato Eurogroup in London yesterday giving no explanation, and to the surprise of the nine other European Defence Ministers taking part.

A telephone call to Mr Roy Mason, British Defence Secretary and current Chairman of the Eurogroup, announced that the Greek permanent representative to Nato, who was due to have attended the meeting at Lancaster House, had been instructed by his Government to stay away.

Greece announced last year that it was withdrawing its troops from Nato because of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus and the apparent inability of the alliance to prevent it. But it remains politically within the alliance.

Yesterday's last-minute decision by the Athens Government came as a surprise because the Greek representative had been in London for the meeting, and had been at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, the previous night.

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Most of yesterday's meeting was devoted to promoting collaboration on weapons procurement and to the need for standardization on equipment and procedures.

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## INDO-CHINA



Mrs Phan Thi Minh: a call to the Foreign Office.

## PRG envoy has talk in London

By A. M. Rendel

The British Government proposes to recognize the new Government in South Vietnam as soon as its position is satisfactorily clarified. The normal criteria for recognition are that the government concerned should control the greater part of the national territory, and command the obedience of the mass of the population with a good prospect of being able to maintain this degree of control over both territory and people.

The position of the communist authority in South Vietnam, evidently now fulfils these requirements, but it is not clear what government will be established in Saigon. It seems likely also that before long North Vietnam will be united; but this possibility will not delay recognition.

Mrs Phan Thi Minh, a representative of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam, arrived in London yesterday to address a public meeting today arranged by the British Peace Committee.

She called at the Foreign Office for a 30-minute informal talk, which is understood to have been conducted in a friendly atmosphere.

At Heathrow airport she said the PRG would welcome all foreign help "as long as there are no political conditions attached."

Her country was now entirely liberated and the Vietnamese people were working actively to dispense all hatred, suspicion and divisions created by the American aggressors.

"We are seeking to mobilize the forces and talents of our people to build up a South Vietnam which will be peaceful, independent, democratic, neutral and prosperous."

Clemency would be shown to those who had collaborated with the Americans and even to those who were guilty of crimes against the people.

A third Vietnamese orphan, brought by air from Saigon last month, has died in hospital. She was "only a few weeks old," a spokesman for Hillingdon Hospital, Middlesex, said yesterday.

The condition of three orphans at the Central Middlesex Hospital, in London, is improving, he said. Whittington Hospital are still improving, spokesman said.

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## Mr Ford's appeal to Americans succeeds

From Fred Emery Washington, May 7

President Ford's call to Americans to welcome the Vietnamese refugees, and his praise for those who are already doing so, seems today to have quieted the cow plainers in Congress and elsewhere.

Perhaps the Senate and the House will not approve the full \$507m (£211m) Mr Ford requests for the resettlement programme, but Mr Ford appears to have struck the right note for change. Also for a change, the main newspapers are applauding him and echoing him, emphasizing that the mass of Americans are not as uncharitable as the scattered vocal objectors have made them seem this past week.

Mr Ford also has the support of institutions outside the mainstream of politics. The American Federation of Labour-Congress of Industrial Organizations has, in spite of its leader's prediction that unemployment will rise further from the present 8.9 per cent to 11 per cent, insisted on the unalterable moral obligation to shelter and help the refugees. So has the American Jewish conference.

The State Department says it is being inundated with telephoned offers for help for the refugees.

The Administration is detecting criticism towards other countries that have accepted so few Vietnamese, as well as the United Nations High Commission for Refugees.

Mr L. DeLoach, chief coordinator of the resettlement effort here, repeats to congressional questioners that the United Nations High Commission has been sluggish and made only a "minimal response."

Mr Ford, at his press conference last night, did not descend to the "damned mad" attitude ascribed to him by his Republican colleagues. He said only that he had been "very upset" by statements opposing the refugee programme. He understood the economic fears, but tried to deflate them.

Mr Ford went as far as possible, short of a formal announcement, to declare his "intention" of being a candidate for re-election next year, and said he could not understand the scepticism in political circles.

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## Opponents reject cheap food claims

By George Clark Political Correspondent

The Get Britain Out Campaign last night issued a rejoinder to the Consumers' Association claim that the British housewife stands to benefit by continued EEC membership.

It said that the association was a Government-sponsored organization and it was therefore no surprise that it came out in support of "the Government lie" that food prices in the Community were cheaper than outside. The campaign statement added:

"This flies in the face of all the evidence. There is now a dramatic turnaround in world food prices and a bumper harvest in North America will bring these down even more."

The world sugar price, it said, was now well below the EEC level. Because of the common agricultural policy (CAP) and the common external tariff (CET), the British housewife was denied the benefit of lower prices: she was forced to buy food from the Community. The statement continued:

"If prices inside the EEC were cheaper, there could be no possible explanation for the existence of either CAP or the CET. Within two years, if we stay in, EEC will be increased by over 40 per cent so as to bring our food prices into line with the prevailing prices on the Continent."

Mrs Judith Hart, Minister of Overseas Development, said in Bridlington that the pro-EEC campaign was a contempt of British democracy. This was the most historic issue for generations. The people had the right to decide. They were entitled to more than calculated television and radio bias, more than press dedication to front page stories about the differences within the Labour Party, within every party, and throughout the country: more than distorted facts, and certainly more than cheap "Reds-under-the-bed" scares.

Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said yesterday it would be a "highly irresponsible action" if Britain left the EEC in the present troubled world situation (the Press Association reports). She told the National Council of Women in London that the EEC held the initiative in the Western world, and it would be "a very dangerous time to rock the boat."

## Electricians refuse call for British withdrawal

From Paul Routledge Labour Editor Douglas, Isle of Man

Mr Frank Chapple, the electricians' leader, last night pledged to work for the continued British membership of the EEC after delegates to his union's policy-making conference rejected a militant call for withdrawal from Europe.

Predicting that next month's referendum would return an "overwhelming Yes" vote, the general secretary of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union said he now felt free to campaign for Europe after the conference.

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## OVERSEAS

## Mr Wilson gains three main objectives at Commonwealth talks

From David Spanier  
Diplomatic Correspondent  
Kingston, Jamaica, May 7

The Commonwealth is in good shape. All the countries have got what they wanted, more or less, out of this meeting of heads of government. After a gigantic blow-out on the lawn of the Jamaica House, complete with steel bands and Jamaican teagobbers, delegates departed today in high spirits.

None more so than Mr Wilson, who achieved no fewer than three principal objectives out of the Commonwealth: African good will for his Rhodesia policy; the launching of his plan for commodities; and Commonwealth endorsement of British membership of the European Community.

This last, according to Mr Michael Manley, the Jamaican Prime Minister, was entirely "unsolicited". On the other hand, the *Jamaica Daily News* reports that the draft of the statement about British staying in the EEC was being circulated by the British to some heads of government a week ago.

If there were any losers at the conference they were the Asian countries. They played almost no part in the proceedings, apart from the remarkably ebullient and entertaining Mr Lee Kuan Yew, Prime Minister of Singapore. (Sample: Give me the money and I can save South-East Asia").

An Indian diplomat put it this way: "You see, we have matured as a nation. We do not expect any miracles from the Commonwealth. We are trying to live within our means and do what we can. When our oil off Bombay comes on stream we may be more independent in international affairs."

This resignation contrasts with the enthusiasm of the African countries, and their incantations about Rhodesia. It

gives them a body of purpose that other countries lack. Just what some African states might do if ever the Rhodesian problem was solved is another question. In spite of the hopes raised, however, there is still a very long way to go in southern Africa.

Mr Wilson is not anxious to call a constitutional conference unless there is some reason for believing that Mr Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, wants to be cooperative. It is easy enough to call a conference, of course, but, as Mr Callaghan, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary put it, this is the last peaceful play in getting a peaceful settlement, and the consequences of a failed conference could be terrifying.

The greatest achievement of the conference, potentially, is on the economic front. The World and the industrialized countries has been going on all through the 1960s and has been getting worse.

The economic section of the statement, setting up a committee to work out practical measures to close the gap between rich and poor, is one of the very few steps in the opposite direction, towards order.

Mr Manley, who has emerged as a leader of some stature in this meeting, said in his end-of-conference remarks that the practical approach, of getting something done on commodities, could be brought to fruition without waiting for the longer-term economic order to be fulfilled in its entirety.

"We would not hold back commodity agreements because we had not agreed to restructure the International Monetary Fund," he said.

This is an important statement, for it offers the chance of progress.

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Leading article, page 15

## Mr Vorster judges his 'six months' profitable

From Our Correspondent  
Cape Town, May 7

Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, today reviewed the peace-making efforts of the past six months and claimed that South Africa had demonstrated the sincerity of its intentions "beyond a shadow of doubt".

Speaking to journalists at the end of the six-month period in which he had forecast surprising developments, Mr Vorster said South Africa's problems remained urgent, but people abroad were now more willing to take notice and to understand.

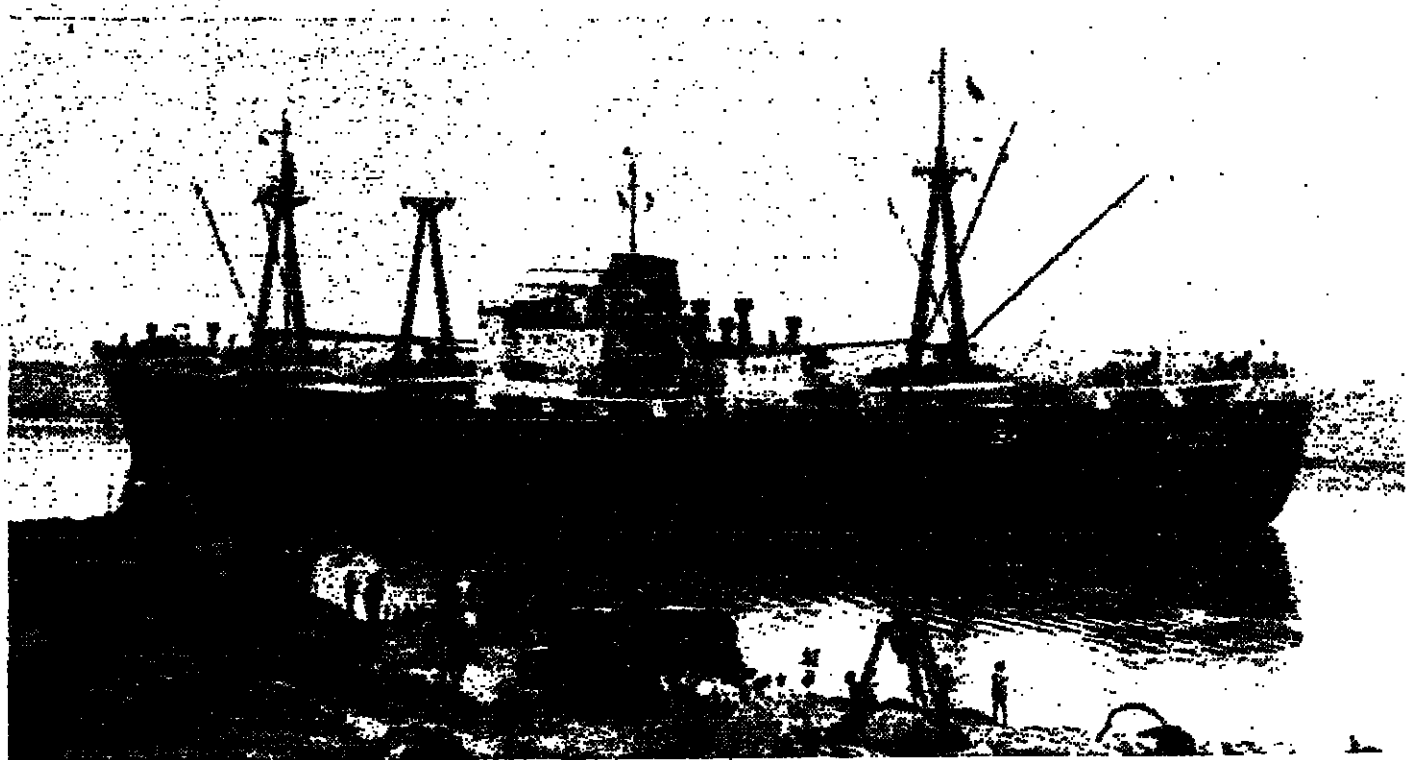
His "six months" remark had not been intended to set any time limit he said. In the next two to four years, there would either be an understanding with Africa, or an escalation of conflict.

Mr Vorster spoke confidently of the new appraisal in the West of the importance of the Cape sea route as a result of developments in Vietnam, the opening of the Suez Canal and the recent exercises by the Soviet Navy.

He indicated that contacts between South Africa and black African states would continue and that more of such contacts would be made "in the open".

On Rhodesia and South-West Africa, Mr Vorster said that since the Durban Summit, many African countries had been preoccupied with the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' conference. There had not been exactly a slowdown in détente moves. It was just that there had not for the moment been an occasion for further contact.

On domestic policies, Mr Vorster said National Party policy was not static but was constantly evolving. He had never worked so hard in his life as in the past six months but he was heartened by the fact that he had the bulk of South Africans behind him.



Under way again: the Nordwind, one of two West German ships that have started to steam out of the Suez Canal after being trapped there for eight years, heading for Port Said.

## Ships steam out of Suez Canal after eight years

From Our Correspondent  
Cairo, May 7

Two West German cargo ships that had been trapped in the Suez Canal since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war were brought out today on their way to the Mediterranean. The two vessels, the Nordwind and the Münsterland, sailed under their own steam to Port Said.

The other ships, with un-serviceable engines, will be towed 60 miles from the Great Bitter Lake to the Mediterranean during the next two weeks at the rate of two vessels every two or three days.

The release of the ships, including two British vessels, is the beginning of the final stage of reopening the waterway after the dangerous and expensive operation of clearing it of explosives and wrecks accumulated since the 1967 war.

The clearance, in which Egypt, the United States, Britain and France took part, was completed in 13 months and cost about £120m. Soviet naval units also helped clear the Suez Gulf, at the southern end of the canal.

Preparing the canal for navigation also included the demolition of a concrete causeway built by the Israelis in the middle sector during the

October war of 1973. Releasing the ships, a delicate operation, is taking place under the supervision of Mr Kamal Hamza, the canal's chief pilot, in collaboration with experts of the Suez Canal Authority.

The canal will be reopened in a colourful ceremony attended by President Sadat and leaders from other countries. Preparations are in full swing at the three canal towns of Port Said, Ismailia and Suez.

## Mr Wilson reassures President of faith in US

From Fred Emery  
Washington, May 7

Today was mutual reassurance day at the White House, as President Ford met, in succession, the Prime Ministers of New Zealand, Australia and Britain. The President reassured Mr Wilson, the British Prime Minister, at a news conference said he told Mr Ford the British Government "had the fullest confidence in the United States".

Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary who was in attendance, added: "Our faith is undimmed". He wanted the American people to know that.

Mr Wilson also disclosed that they had discussed the Concordia Airlines, which is meeting opposition from Americans wanting to stop it flying to the United States. He did not give details, but the British Government is known to feel that it has a possible threat to its ally, ensuring that the supersonic airliner is permitted to land here.

Mr Wilson also disagreed with the gloomy commentaries on British newspapers and on the radio. He said he had never known a time in his 30 years of coming here when there hadn't been gloom expressed.

"They were wrong then. As for the commentaries, they're wrong this time. As for the commentaries, they're wrong this time. As for the commentaries, they're wrong this time."

He conceded that communists were a problem in the unions—as one commentator had pointed out—but he suggested that some of the current problems were a hangover from the days of Mr Heath. "We're still paying for some of the confrontation of the early seventies," he said.

Mr Wilson also said that he had discussed the forthcoming British referendum on the European Community with Mr Ford. "As one politician to another he said 'How's it going?'"

Mr Wilson told the conference. Asked if he had expressed consolation to Mr Ford over the doubts which the President and Dr Kissinger were saying must be felt in America's world since the Saigon debacle, Mr Wilson replied that he had not. He had merely expressed "the fullest confidence" in that world.

The Prime Minister spoke of the preparations for the Nato summit at the end of May and the ministerial meeting of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) at the beginning of June. "All of our colleagues in Europe," he said, were determined to make a reality of the Western alliance.

He defended Britain's new proposals for world commodities conference, and Mr Callaghan spoke of the Nato and OECD meetings as offering great opportunities for all members "to get a coherent structure to their policies" in energy, food, and commodities.

## Lebanon Cabinet crisis as six Ministers resign

Beirut, May 7.—Six Cabinet Ministers resigned today from the Government formed only seven months ago, causing political observers here to expect Mr Rashid Solh, the Premier, to follow suit.

The crisis results from widespread dissatisfaction in the 18-member Cabinet with what the rebels call the Government's idleness during last month's street fighting between right-wing Lebanese Phalangist militias and Palestinian guerrillas.

Mr Pierre Gemayel, the Phalangist Party leader, has charged that failure by the Government to assert authority was to blame for the destruction, the killing of about 200 persons and the wounding of more than double that number during five days of fighting.

Two Phalangists, Mr Georges

## Mr Tanaka is cleared of tax evasion

Tokyo, May 7.—Mr Masayoshi Ohira, the Finance Minister, reported to Parliament today that Mr Kakuei Tanaka, the former Prime Minister, had not been guilty of any serious tax evasion.

The report to the audit committee of the House of Councillors (Upper Chamber) came more than five months after Mr Tanaka had resigned. Other investigations into Mr Tanaka's affairs are continuing.

Mr Ohira said an investigation by the National Tax Administration Agency showed that in returns filed by Mr Tanaka or his business interests there had been no errors in calculation and misinterpretation of tax rules but measures had been taken to correct them.

The agency said that Mr Tanaka had been ordered to pay about 40m yen (about £57,000) in back taxes.—Reuter.

## In brief

## Praise only for the Russians

Prague, May 7.—The celebrations of the thirtieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War and of the liberation of Czechoslovakia reached their climax today at a festive meeting in Prague Castle, but officials failed to mention the war effort of other allies than the Soviet Union.

American troops reached the Bohemian town of Pilsen on May 6, 1945, but that anniversary and the fact that the Americans liberated areas up to some 20 miles from Prague went unmentioned in the speeches of Dr Gustav Husak, the party leader and Politburo members.

## Hope for Cuba

Havana, May 7.—Senator George McGovern, the South Dakota Democrat, said here today that he and Dr Fidel Castro, "inevitably" the American trade embargo against the island would be lifted.

## Briton dies of cold

Marmadeade, May 7.—The body of Mr Kevin Murphy, of Beckenham, Kent, was found in a wood near Romstead, in the East of Kent, on Monday. He was 21 and is believed to have died of cold and exposure.—Agence France Presse.

## Angola evacuees

Johannesburg, May 7.—The first group of British, South African and American nationals evacuated from Angola arrived here from Luanda today. They said they were given two days' notice to leave.

## Death at the UN

New York, May 7.—A man visiting the United Nations building here shot himself in a secluded part of the grounds today. He left a note referring to "social unrest in the world".

## Anguilla talks fixed

Bridgetown, Barbados, May 7.—Mr Robert Bradshaw, Premier of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, will have talks tomorrow with "a high British official" to discuss Anguilla.

## Marines commander

Washington, May 7.—The United States Marine Corps has a new commandant, Lieutenant General Louis H. Wilson. He succeeds General Robert Cushman.

## Mindszenty burial

Vienna, May 7.—Cardinal Mindszenty, former Primate of Hungary, will be buried on May 15 in an Austrian country church at Mariarell, 90 miles south-west of Vienna.

## Unanimity at Kingston summit

Kingston, May 7.—The following is a partial text of the Commonwealth summit conference communiqué issued here last night.

The heads of government reviewed political developments in the world which had occurred since they last met, in the light of the varied international concerns of member countries.

They stressed that the maintenance of peace and stability could not be left to the discretion of the super powers but was the responsibility of the entire international community.

Heads of government laid particular emphasis on the opportunities for the Commonwealth to make a constructive contribution to the problems of Southern Africa, underlined the responsibility of Commonwealth member countries to work together in the search for a resolution of the situation in Rhodesia.

Disarmament: Heads of government expressed their concern at the continued testing and proliferation of nuclear weapons and reaffirmed the need for urgent measures to facilitate a comprehensive ban on all nuclear weapons tests as one essential step towards general and complete disarmament under effective international control.

Cyprus: Heads of government, deeply concerned over the continuation of the Cyprus crisis, expressed their solidarity with the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and their determination to help in the achievement of a political settlement based on the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-alignment of the Republic of Cyprus.

They reaffirmed their support for General Assembly resolution 3212 (XXIX) and Secretary-General U Thant's efforts to bring about a speedy withdrawal of all foreign armed forces from the Republic of Cyprus, for the taking of urgent measures for the return of all the refugees to their homes in safety and for continued efforts through the Intercommunal talks to reach freely and mutually acceptable political settlement.

Heads of government, as a concrete expression of their interest and concern for a fellow Commonwealth country, agreed to establish a committee consisting of representatives of the Governments of Australia, Britain, Guyana, India, Kenya, Malra, Nigeria and Zambia to meet with the Commonwealth Secretary-General as early as possible, to follow developments concerning Cyprus, make recommendations and assist in every possible way towards the early implementation of the above-mentioned United Nations resolutions.

Middle East: Heads of government expressed concern at the renewed danger of conflict in the Middle East. They reaffirmed the need for the establishment of a durable peace in the area as a matter of urgency, and urged all parties to renew their efforts to achieve this objective.

To this end, heads of government affirmed their support for the relevant United Nations resolutions on the Middle East and their belief that to ensure success, it was necessary that the authentic and legitimate representatives of the Palestinian people participate in the

forthcoming peace negotiations in Geneva.

Indian Ocean: Serious concern was expressed about the threat to naval activity in the Indian Ocean area on the part of the great powers and the establishment and expansion of military installations.

Heads of government called upon all nations, and particularly the great powers most directly concerned, to work towards the implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations declaring the Indian Ocean a zone of peace.

South Asia: The heads of government noted that positive steps had been taken in the process of normalization among the countries of the South Asian sub-continent. However, they expressed their grave concern at the impediment to the normalisation of relations posed by certain outstanding problems, resulting in the aggravation of economic hardship and the retardation of the process of national reconstruction in Bangladesh.

Indo-China: Heads of government welcomed the end of the prolonged war in Indo-China, agreed that the peoples of the region do so to contribute to international assistance for the urgent tasks of rehabilitation and reconstruction and looked forward to the new governments of the region playing their full part in the community of nations.

The Caribbean: Heads of government strongly reaffirmed the right of people in each country to choose the form of government of their own free choice, to achieve their social, economic and political goals.

Belize: Heads of government offered their full support for the aspirations of the people of Belize for early independence. Noting that Belize had recently been returned to British administration, they urged the people to take all necessary action for a speedy solution of the problem, which could be achieved by the international community through the United Nations, in accordance with the principle of the self-determination of peoples as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

Cuba: Heads of government expressed the hope that all countries would normalize their relations with Cuba and respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of that state and the right of the people to the government of their choice.

South Africa: Heads of government reaffirmed that the objective for Rhodesia was independence on the basis of the majority rule.

They reaffirmed their support for the total support for the struggle of the people of Zimbabwe for independence on the basis of majority rule and pledged to encourage their efforts for the speedy attainment of this objective.

They took note of the determination of the African freedom fighters, supported by African and other states, to achieve their objective by peaceful means if possible and recognized the inevitability of a just and armed struggle should peaceful avenues be blocked by the racist and illegal regime.

The meeting noted that South Africa continues to support the rebel government by supplying it with arms and ammunition.

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the military and economic assistance on which its survival depends, and reaffirmed the view that South Africa should fulfil its international obligations and strictly apply the provisions of the arms embargo to withdraw its forces from Rhodesia.

Heads of government emphasized the importance of taking immediate practical steps to assist the dependent Mozambique in applying sanctions since the great bulk of Rhodesia's exports and imports are transited through Mozambique's transit facilities. They were unanimously in favour of providing immediate financial assistance to the new Government of Mozambique.

They also endorsed recommendation that an initiative should be taken by Commonwealth governments at the United Nations to establish a programme of assistance for Mozambique in terms of articles 49 and 50 of the Charter.

Heads of government were deeply concerned that South Africa continues to occupy Namibia illegally and in defiance of world opinion. Reaffirming that the fragmentation of Namibia was unacceptable, they recalled the obligation of the international community to maintain the territorial integrity of the territory and the right of its people to self-determination and independence.

The meeting looked forward to the time when the Government and people of Namibia might be welcomed into the Commonwealth, if that were their wish.

Heads of government reaffirmed their total and unqualified condemnation of apartheid and all forms of racialism. They welcomed the British Government's decision to comply with the United Nations embargo on the sale of arms to South Africa and to terminate the Simonstown agreement.

Economic Community: Heads of government recognized the need to take immediate steps towards the creation of a rational and equitable new international economic order. They agreed that a small group of experts should be invited to draw up for consideration by Commonwealth governments, in the context of the current international dialogue, a comprehensive and inter-related programme of practical measures directed at closing the gap between the rich and the poor countries.

These measures would be designed to promote development and to increase the transfer of real resources to developing countries, inter alia in the areas of production, distribution and exchange of primary and secondary products as well as services.

Heads of government recognized the importance in this context of cooperating to achieve an expanding world economy and world trade.

Declaration of Secretary-General: Heads of government paid warm tribute to the Secretary-General Mr Arnold Smith, CH, for his distinguished service to the Commonwealth over the past 10 years and elected Ronald Shridhara Ramphal, Foreign Minister of Guyana, to succeed him.

Next meeting: Heads of government accepted with pleasure an invitation by the United Kingdom Government to hold their next meeting in London in mid-1977 at the time of the celebrations of the silver jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen's accession as head of the Commonwealth.—Reuter.

He was then invited twice by Mr Smith to have talks, but after meeting his executive on April 27 he said he would not resume talks with the conditions Mr Muzorewa until the conditions agreed in Lusaka last December were fulfilled—that is the release of all detainees, and an end to political trials.

It is now believed that Mr

Muzorewa, who has been attending the Commonwealth Conference, will be away from Rhodesia for some time and he hopes the government held of getting him personally to the conference table at least by next week will not materialize.

Unofficial Government thinking is that Mr Muzorewa is deliberately stalling, not wanting to come face to face with Mr Smith until nearer June 25, the day Pretoria takes official control of Mozambique. With a possible threat then of the Pretoria troops poised on Rhodesia's eastern borders the ANC leader could, theoretically, have a better bargaining position for his demands for majority rule.

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## Wider powers sought by Delhi

From Our Correspondent  
Delhi, May 7

The Indian Government is seeking powers to detain people without trial for two years without reference to an advisory board.

The reason given by Mr Reddy, the Home Minister, is that "anti-national elements" in Nagaland, Mizoram and other north-eastern regions indulge in activities that require their detention for longer periods.

At present, the Government detain people for three months without trial, but the case has to be presented to an advisory committee.

## Africans plan to resume Smith talks

From Our Correspondent  
Salisbury, May 7

An African National Council (ANC) delegation is to seek a meeting with Mr Ian Smith, the Prime Minister, for preliminary talks on a Rhodesian settlement.

It was learnt here today that Dr Elliot Gabellah, ANC's vice-president, had received a cable from Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the organization's leader, instructing him to go ahead and arrange a meeting with Mr Smith. The delegation is likely to include Dr Gabellah, Dr Gordon Chavunda, the ANC's secretary-general, and possibly Mr John Nkomo, a senior official. The final composition

of the party will be decided on Friday.

In all probability the delegation will merely try and clarify points arising from recent correspondence between Mr Muzorewa and Mr Smith returned after the meeting of the Organization of African Unity held last month in Dar es Salaam.

He was then invited twice by Mr Smith to have talks, but after meeting his executive on April 27 he said he would not resume talks with the conditions Mr Muzorewa until the conditions agreed in Lusaka last December were fulfilled—that is the release of all detainees, and an end to political trials.

It is now believed that Mr























## Shopping

### Prudence Glynn



Hand made necklace of 18ct yellow gold, set with 14 diamonds, by Jean Dinh Van. Available from his workshop at 15 Place Gallon, Paris 2 (and, we hope, in Britain soon); £575 approximately. It is also available in white, gold or platinum. White voile shirt, and crêpe de chine tie, from a selection at George Boreham, 35 Knightsbridge, S.W.1. £16 and £8.



Two sundresses by Laura Ashley. Off the shoulder sundress with frills and a thin halter neck strap, style M206. Garden print sleeveless sundress with frills around the neck and hem, style M203. Both are in sizes 8-14 at £7.00 and are available in many Ashley prints. From their new shop in Norwich and all other branches. Photographs by Peter Akehurst.

I do try to keep an open mind on the merits of design in things to wear, but there are some areas where my objectivity breaks down. One is watches, which so far as I am concerned are useful mechanisms for telling you the time. The moment I am shown a watch which only by dint of breaking the fingernails, prizing up cabochons, and applying a magnifying glass thereunder yields up the secret that *tempus is fugit* I go cold, rists of missed trains and being even later for everything than I normally am stretching before me as I

wrestle to open the beastly watch. Another area is that of jewelry for men. I like the idea of jewelry for men very much, but it has got to be very expensive, very subtle and above all intimate. I loathe ostentatious rings and cufflinks and studs and baubles dangling on the chest. But a fine chain whose charms are directed mainly to the wearer and those closest to him meets with my full approval, though most of them are very dull. The one in the photograph is not dull. It is by the distinguished Vietnamese jeweller Jean

Dinh Van and it consists of gold links interspersed with finger-nail sized plaques of gold set with a diamond which goes right through the plaque. I think the idea of something so sparse and elegant under a pin-striped suit is very piquant, but since in these liberated days I am in no position to stipulate under what circumstances the discovery may be made, I think the chain might need to carry a small tag stating that Finders are not at all necessarily Keepers. You could always try to borrow it, though.

Norwich is the setting for the newest shop in the Laura Ashley chain, which from being a sort of cosy Welsh concern making clothes for middle class girls with ecological yearnings has grown into a thriving business with an unmistakable handwriting and yet enough new ideas to keep the customers coming back for more. At 3-5 Dove Street, East Anglians hitherto starved of the earthy splendours of Ashley prints can find clothes, wall paper, furnishing and dress fabrics.

If you cannot squeeze into any of the ready made things, or you want, as I usually do, to use the furnishing fabrics to cover yourself, that too is now possible because four Laura Ashley original patterns are included in the July McCalls paper pattern book. In view of the vivacious trade in copying Ashley designs which is evident in any High Street it is nice to know someone is actually giving them credit for the shapes and, presumably, buying the idea instead of stealing it.

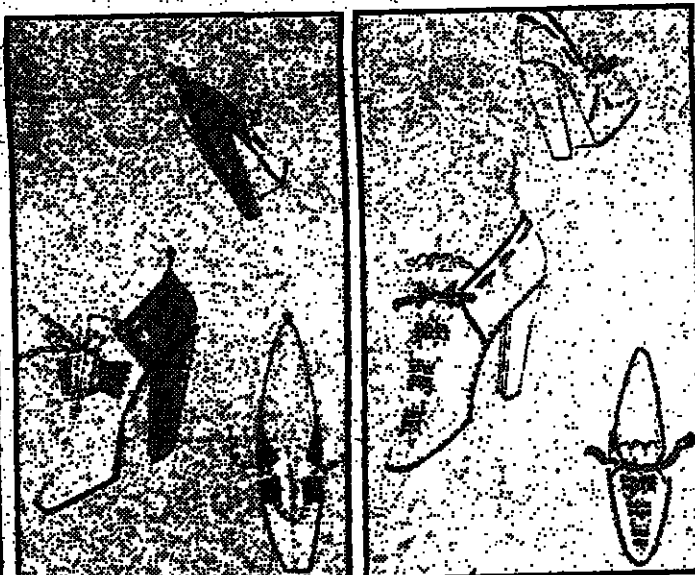
Inspired no doubt by the onset of summer and the woken foot season, those concerned with the walkers of the world are giving voice.

Clarks have rallied from criticism that "consumers have difficulty in finding suitable running shoes for 13 to 15-year-old girls" with the riposte that they, Clarks, can provide shoes both fitting, healthy and safe yet with the necessary fashion image that compromises teenage taste with undistorted feet in later life. I must say I find school shoes for the under tens the hardest to get—including from Clarks.

K Shoes have introduced a "Blue Ribbon Fitting Specialist Scheme" for those whose design for chic in infancy has crippled their adult feet, presumably. I am all admiration for the thought, but feel compelled to point out yet again that even cheap shoes bought abroad seem to fit all sorts of feet without benefit of computer, stings which are enormously expensive to make and to stock. So back to the drawing board. Mrs Phyllis Crane's national campaign to put Feet First at 3 Barrow, Lane, Steeton, Keighley, West Yorkshire has risen to the status of printed writing paper but the newsheet remains duplicated.

For seekers after the truth of why their feet are killing them there is an excellent booklet from the Consumers' Association, 14 Buckingham Street, London WC2, price 75p, called *Care of the Feet*.

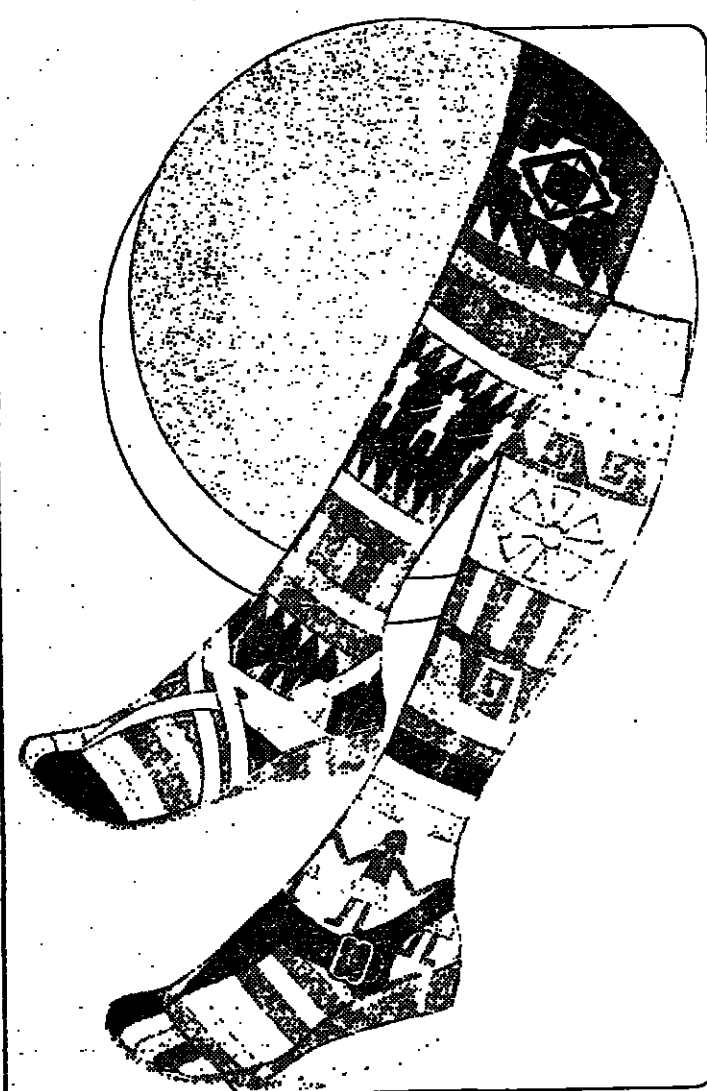
● New stocks of the six-sided ironstone china tea caddy in Flower Basket pattern mentioned on this page last week now cost £1.95 each.



Shoes designed by Alan Flux. Left: Town shoe in polished cherry leather and white buckskin; with square toe, slender heel. Fancy lace-holders flank split vamp. Cord laces with metal tips. A pair of shoes to this design will be hand made at British United. They will be worn at the Royal College of Art Fashion Show in London in June. Right: Honey-bisque suede evening shoe with covered heel. Front draped for smocking effect, with punched and scalloped tongue. Threaded and tied with flat suede laces.

● The shoe trade in this country is even less receptive to native design talent than the clothing trade, seeming content to live off copies of continental styles made in uncontinental materials which torture your feet on uncontinental lasts which do not fit the delicate miracle of bones and sinews on which we weave our paths through life. So any attempt to marry design to industry is balm to the nation's corns.

After some depressing years, the British United Shoe Design Scholarship competition, which is administered by the British Boot and Shoe Industry, and now confined to the Royal College of Art students seems to be making some real progress. Last year's winner, Joyce Dixon, spent a mutually useful spell with K Shoes in the Lake District. Last year's runner up, Alan Flux, is this year's winner, and his chic town shoe will be made up by British United in time for the RCA show. Last year Edward Rayne's generosity and dedication to design standards produced a chance for manufacturers and all students to meet in the Rayne Bond Street salon, a useful initial step towards better relations between the trade and the talent.



Brightly coloured toe socks from Inca. Both at £4.75. Worn with thonged sandals from Sacha, £3.99, available at all their branches. Striped toe socks also available at Harrods; by Bonnie Doon; £2.

● One of the major changes the fashion industry has had to come with has been the disappearance of seasonal tradition for both items of clothing and fabrics. Cotton is now worn all the year round, so is fine jersey, and the idea of a summer coat has not crossed a fashionable mind for years.

The newest area to feel free is the feet. Two years ago, clogs became the universal all-year shoe and now it is the turn of the toes, not the heels, to get exposed. Sandals, and variations on the sandal theme, are the big trend in shoes now, and they are not being worn just for summer. But while open heeled clogs presented no problem in leg cover because any tights or socks looked all right with them, a liberal display of toes in January calls for something more exciting and novel, especially since many of the sandals have things between the toes.

The craze in New York is for digital socks and stockings in snazzy patterns, and you can buy them in England from, Inca, 45, Elizabeth Street, London, S.W.1. Dr Jaeger would have approved. He tried hard to get digital socks adopted a hundred years ago on the grounds of hygiene and draught-exclusion. He failed except among health cranks. Perhaps if his offering had been brightly coloured, instead of a nasty greige he might have had more luck.

Drawing by Mariah Graham

● Among the multifarious celebrants of Regent Street's 150th Anniversary is the Needlewoman Shop at number 146 of that illustrious shopping parade. They are marking the occasion with displays of a new book from the Coats Sewing Group called "Embroidery in Fashion" which for 40p offers lots of ideas for embellishing your clothes plus some free iron-on transfers for motifs in a pocket at the back of the book.

Some of the suggestions are both attractive and smart, some are too crafty for my taste and some fit the category of loving labour so misplaced one would long to cry "stop!" to anyone seen doing it to their dresses. There is no doubt however that the book is very apposite just now. The price of clothes, especially if they have any hand detailing on them, is so high and the opportunities for refurbishing something old by embroidery so genuinely thrifty that even those who do not sew for pleasure can sew for sense.

Left: Ideas with stitches, as featured in the book.

# HOMES

## and gardens

## and FURNISHING

The 'best of British' in furnishing fabrics—like Sanderson, Liberty, Laura Ashley—and the fascinating stories behind the patterns.

## and SUBURBS

We look around Britain's first garden suburb—Bedford Park, Chiswick—now that it's 100 years old.

## and FASHION

Something special, something different—in hats, dresses, two-pieces. For you to look your 'stunning best' on the big summer occasions.

## and PEOPLE

Peter O'Toole talks about his new film 'Rosebud'... and about his other great interests—writing, archaeology, house building.

## and SHOWPLACES

Another splendid garden, open to view—Barnsley House, Gloucestershire... full of special ideas for all plant lovers.

## and TRAVEL

How about a wonderful winter week in Athens? You can fly away with us on a specially arranged holiday.

## and so much more

# HOMES

and gardens

A NEW LIFE FOR TWO OLD HOUSES

BEST OF BRITISH FABRICS

ALFRESCO MEALS & PAGES OF DELICIOUS FOOD

HORMONE REPLACEMENT TO CURE THE MISERY OF THE MENOPAUSE

JUNE • OUT NOW

For coffee lovers who can't take caffeine

HAG DECAFFEINATED Coffee

Get back to enjoying one of life's important little luxuries.

### Problem

#### Window Cleaners and Wetsummers

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Law Report May 7 1975

# Planning consent needed to demolish church

## Statutory procedure in tax inquiry explained

Attorney General Sir Geoffrey Howe, Lord Diplock, Lord Cross of Chelmsford, Lord Simon of Glaisdale, Lord Kilbrandon and Lord Salmon.

The House of Lords held that the intended demolition of a "non-conformist" church of historic and architectural interest was not a "demolition" within the meaning of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971.

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services in the church were discontinued; but all three considered that the building should not be demolished.

It was clear that whether or not it was being used for ecclesiastical purposes today the Howard Church would not be being so used when it was being demolished.

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Howard v. Borman and Others. Before Lord Diplock, Lord Cross of Chelmsford, Lord Simon of Glaisdale, Lord Kilbrandon and Lord Salmon.

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though he had returned when, on March 25, the chairman and registrar reported their determination to the commissioners that there was a prima facie case for proceeding in the matter.

The commissioners thereupon gave notice to the taxpayer, in accordance with section 28(3), of the adjustments which they judged to be necessary in order to counteract the tax advantage which in their opinion he had enjoyed. He took his statutory appeal to the special commissioners; but before it could be heard he had begun to explore another avenue.

On June 16, 1969, he served a writ on the general respondents claiming a declaration that the determination of the tribunal was void, or alternatively that there was no determination by the tribunal, in the face of a panel of three persons appointed by the commissioners.

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pressed their opinions on the papers because, with the chairman, the tribunal, whose determination was then communicated to the commissioners.

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the result was that the determination that a prima facie case had been made out in the instant matter was made by a tribunal consisting of a chairman and more than two persons regularly appointed. The taxpayer's first point must therefore fail.

A good part of the discussion in the House and in the Court of Appeal was directed to whether the three members who constituted the tribunal were a panel or a quorum of the tribunal. The decision did not turn on that. "Quorum" was not a suitable term to describe a number of persons, in their own time, sending individual decisions to be collected by a chairman. One could not point to a moment of time at which a quorum was required to be constituted.

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### Privy Council

## Church Commissioners' case too general

**Pim and Others v. Church Commissioners.** Before Lord Wilberforce, Viscount Dilhorne and Lord Edmund-Davies.

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a living and viable entity with a character and quality of its own; that the scheme had been devised upon assumptions regarding the future development of the area which were no longer valid; that the needs of the area were best met by preserving the present unit and church; that the viability of Christ Church should not be judged from the situation which had prevailed there in the past two years; and that there was no good case either on the grounds of manpower saving or expense for the scheme.

The House of Lords held that the intended demolition of a "non-conformist" church of historic and architectural interest was not a "demolition" within the meaning of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971.

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## A place for job-placement

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Bernard Levin

# Right, Mr Weighell, but not for very long

Much has been said at the expense of Mr Sidney Weighell, General Secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, who, appearing before the arbitration tribunal that is to rule on his union's pay claim, rejected as irrelevant the fact that British Rail does not have the money to pay what the railwaymen are asking: the London Evening Standard put it plainly in a headline which read "We want the cash you don't have". All the same, Mr Weighell is right.

He is not only right: he has done a public service by drawing attention to the irreconcilable contradiction within which all our state-owned industries, and an increasing number in the private sector, are compelled to operate. The contradiction, of course, is that governments—both Labour and Conservative—maintain that these industries must so adjust their prices, expenditures and commercial activities that they remain solvent ("taking" as the exquisite jest runs "one year with another"); indeed, in many cases that requirement is formally laid upon them by Act of Parliament.

But nobody takes any notice of it, and nobody is seriously expected to do so, and Mr Weighell is perfectly entitled to say what is indeed the case, that the government cannot have a 30 per cent rise because BR is in debt and ought to be in the hands of the Official Receiver, even though BR is in debt and ought to be in the hands of the Official Receiver, even though the truth of the matter is that, until a fundamental change takes place—

through a change of attitude on the part of the present Government, the election of a Government with an already changed attitude, or the relentless pressure of the ineluctable fact that twice two make four—industries like the railways will in the end always be rescued by the gift of further public money, raised from taxation or borrowing. The tribunal may rule against the NUR and award them only the 21.2 per cent that BR has offered (which, incidentally, BR has not got either), and the consequent industrial action may be fiercely resisted by BR and even by the Government; but in the end the compromise figure between 30 per cent and 21.2 per cent will be agreed on (unless, indeed, the Government panics altogether and sends for Lord Wilberforce, in which case the railwaymen may confidently expect something in the region of 45 per cent), and the gap will be bridged by public money, while Mr Foot, happily restored to full health, runs here and there crying, "This is well within the terms of the Social Contract". Mr Marsh may bang his head on the wall, or even on the head of Sir Montague Finniston, but all he will get out of such sport is concussion: he will still be forbidden to run BR on commercial principles, and the Government will still not admit that that is the case. But neither prong of this Morton's Fork is the most important element in the situation: the part that matters is that everybody knows what the truth actually is—Mr Marsh, the Tribunal, the Minister of Transport



Mr Sidney Weighell: he has done a public service.

and, above all, Mr Weighell. British Rail has not got the money? Then the Government can give it to British Rail.

And the Government will. It is all very well for critics to say that the NUR (and the miners, and Sir Don Ryder, and the Post Office, and the G.L.C., and the Electrical Power Engineering Association) are behaving as though there was a geyser of money with inexhaustible reserves gushing day and night out of a hole in the garden of No 10 Downing Street; that is precisely what the present state of affairs actually is.

Beneath the spurious contradiction that is caused by the cowardice and dishonesty of governments there lies a real one. The railways, the mines, the

Post Office, the gas and electricity concerns are considered not just as—indeed, in some cases not at all as—industries, but as public services. Nobody expects the Fire Brigade to make a profit by adjusting its charges to cover its costs, because it doesn't have any charges to adjust. The same is in practice true of most of our national enterprises, except that nobody will admit it in the case of those which look like ordinary industries. On the other hand, nobody needs to admit it, because everybody knows it.

And yet twice two make four. Sooner or later, the well in the garden will run dry, either because some government has had it spudded, or because the money that pours from it will cease to have any value at all. Sooner or later, British Rail will say, because it will have to say that the railwaymen can have a 30 per cent pay-rise, and on the Monday following the first Friday on which the new rates have been paid all the railways in the country will shut down, except for non-stop services between London and Edinburgh, London and Penzance and (for historical reasons) Stockton and Darlington. Sooner or later, local government staffs will be told that they can have a rise of 50 per cent, and that no further education will be supplied to anybody by the state. Sooner or later, the miners will be told that they can have a rise of 100 per cent, and that the ensuing price of coal will be £450 a ton, with a special concession to those who cannot afford it at the price, consisting

of a free cardboard coffin in which they can be buried when they have frozen to death.

Viewed in this light, even the argument between Sir Montague Finniston and Mr Benn has substance, for if you leave Mr Benn's substance out of it, and consider it as an argument between Sir Montague Finniston's attitude and an objective contrary attitude, the two horns of the dilemma can be seen bending inwards towards one another, no doubt giving the poor dilemma itself the most appalling headache. For either the steel industry must be run so as to maximize its profits (or diminish its losses) for the good of everybody, or it must be run so as to maximize its labour-force (or diminish its redundancies) for the good of its workers. It cannot be run with both aims simultaneously in mind, and when everybody not only realizes this truth but acts upon it we might eventually be in a position to begin to take the first step towards the approach to the bottom rung of the ladder leading to the sane decision for the march towards the lowest foothills of the mountain-range beyond which lie the most urgent priorities for seeing whether there is a serious possibility of starting to solve some of our economic problems.

Meanwhile, Mr Weighell is right, but Mr Weighell's tragedy is that he will not be right for very long. It is also our tragedy, but that is another story. Or the same story, of course. © Times Newspapers Ltd, 1975

Ronald Butt

## Abortion: stop shielding the facts with a white coat

In a letter to *The Times* on Monday, a prominent group of pro-abortion doctors asked: did my article of January 23, which drew attention to the serious allegations made in the book *Babies for Burning* about the practice of abortion "help to create a mistaken impression in the minds of the public and of MPs shortly before a crucial debate in the House of Commons"? They refer, of course, to the debate which gave a second reading to the bill to reform the Abortion Law and which led to the establishment of the Select Committee on Abortion.

Professor Beard and his colleagues then assert that my more recent article on April 24 did not answer this question. I had thought I had made the answer pretty clear but will try again.

Their suggestion that MPs voted under a "mistaken impression" is backed by an assertion that in my April article I "did not depend on 'fraudulent evidence'". We certainly agree. If this extraordinary observation has any meaning it carries the implication that I was suggesting in January that the moral case against abortion did not depend on "fraudulent evidence" which would be outrageous if it were not self-evident nonsense.

The fact is that the first article was not concerned to make the moral case against abortion but to inform readers of allegations of abuses in its practice. And I have since changed my ground nor my mind between the first article (reporting these allegations) and the second (discussing the attempt by some MPs to use *The Sunday Times* report to have the book ruled out of evidence and the select committee disbanded) about the central point of the first article.

This was that since the authors have stated that they possess recorded evidence of illegals and abuses, it is right that this evidence should be tested by a responsible public body. On Monday the chairman of the select committee, Mr Fred Willey, stated that the author's evidence will be examined.

### A build-up of anxiety

Professor Beard and his colleagues also make a certain play with the statement in my first article that the allegations appear to be based on irrefutable evidence. But of course, the case for saying this was and is that a large majority of the persons and organizations named in the book and the preceding *Waves* of the *Sunday Times* report against parts of the book and the author the whole should not even be looked at.

But Dr Beard and his colleagues must know that MPs have not simply accepted the book but by a gradual increase of anxiety about the whole subject.

*Babies for Burning* may contain the longest account of a human being who has been regarded as morally disgusting throughout our civilization. It is, I think, one of the most obvious manifestations of our present decline, and I believe that it is politically a masterpiece of the politics of the future. It is essentially about value we set on human life how we live together in society.

There is room for a debate about how far a new standard in this respect can be achieved by the letter of the law. A fundamental renewed sense of personal responsibility is needed in this respect, as in others. It is indivisible. If the of the select committee encourage ordinary people to understand the facts, take refuge in a kind of coated aseptic euphemism shields them from what is doing, that alone will just exist.

Similarly, allegations have been made by one of the abortion organizations against the abortion chart that a woman was obliged before she could leave premises, to pay for an abortion she did not have when decided at the last minute against having it.

The case for the select committee and for a review of the law starts independently of book. The discrepancy between the letter of the 1967 Act and the practice is that the Act has never been tested in a court of law. MPs voted for the Bill in the face of evidence over the years and the pressure from their own constituents. If every offered it were proved a fact, the committee would have to hear them or for having a select committee.

The select committee also a role in examining the way which the Department of Health and Social Security has built up its departmental policy on 1967 Act.

Evidence already taken by committee illustrates the city of departments to go alone or seek refuge in ministerial decisions or decisions, as it suits them, one point the DHSS felt on giving a view on the question because the Minister had expressed a view on the Report. Elsewhere it stated that the DHSS had taken the same view as the I. I am not sure that the working of the Act is left unexamined.

So at least we now have where the DHSS stands on basic question. Many MPs believe that it is virtually a case for abortion on request, the National Health Service?

Equally significant is DHSS pressure on doctors to conform to abortion practice before they can get post letters from the Chief Medical Officer of the department regarding matters of concern. February confirms that, in the case of the DHSS, the post includes duty to advise on, undertake or participate in termination of pregnancy and this applies to anaesthetists and nurses as well as doctors. The curious result is added: No reference to duties should be included in advertisements of such a public commitment should be placed in the public press, given to patients.

Another instance of the DHSS attitude was that it turned a project proposed by the Department of Obstetrics at Oxford on the effect of abortion on the subsequent health of women and men. What is more, Joseph, gave no indications such a project had been turned down when he was questioned in the Commons. Since then a larger project has apparently been given to the less qualified College of General Practitioners.

As a result of the fun confusion between legality and morality, the 1967 Act has gradually been used to change people's attitude about what is ethically tolerable. In ten years we have reduced to a convenient action the destruction of a human being, regarded as morally disgusting throughout our civilization. It is, I think, one of the most obvious manifestations of our present decline, and I believe that it is politically a masterpiece of the politics of the future. It is essentially about value we set on human life how we live together in society.

There is room for a debate about how far a new standard in this respect can be achieved by the letter of the law. A fundamental renewed sense of personal responsibility is needed in this respect, as in others. It is indivisible. If the of the select committee encourage ordinary people to understand the facts, take refuge in a kind of coated aseptic euphemism shields them from what is doing, that alone will just exist.

## Why Latin America will not toe the Kissinger line

Latin America's foreign ministers have been arriving in Washington this week to attend the general assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which opens today. This inter-American organization has been much derided in the past by critics who have claimed that it is ineffective and dominated by Washington. But this time the Latin Americans are intent on changing this image and are determined to call the tune rather than allow Dr Kissinger to direct the proceedings.

Admittedly, the meeting begins with several days of private discussions with Dr Kissinger. In itself an innovation. Normally, the official relations between the United States and Latin America are determined to call the tune rather than allow Dr Kissinger to direct the proceedings. Admittedly, the meeting begins with several days of private discussions with Dr Kissinger. In itself an innovation. Normally, the official relations between the United States and Latin America are determined to call the tune rather than allow Dr Kissinger to direct the proceedings.

Even so, the Trade Act is not expected to be the major topic of discussion. This will be Cuba and the possibility of lifting the diplomatic and economic sanctions that were imposed on July 20, 1962. In a sense the sanctions are already obsolete in that a number of Latin American countries have unilaterally restored trade and diplomatic relations with Cuba. But so far the United States has failed to get the OAS collectively to change its mind. Their last attempt, in November at a special session of the OAS in the Ecuadorian capital of Quito, was two votes short of the three-fourths majority required to lift sanctions.

Led by Venezuela, Colombia and Costa Rica, the pro-Cuba lobby is now proposing that the foreign ministers convert themselves into a pro-Cuba lobby. The OAS has failed to get the OAS collectively to change its mind. Their last attempt, in November at a special session of the OAS in the Ecuadorian capital of Quito, was two votes short of the three-fourths majority required to lift sanctions.

Michael Leapman runs up the Commonwealth heads of government meeting at Kingston, Jamaica. The last rum punch has soaked its way into the last overfed diplomatic belly. The last secret has been leaked, the last posture posed, the last decision in the Commonwealth heads of government meeting at Kingston, Jamaica. The last rum punch has soaked its way into the last overfed diplomatic belly. The last secret has been leaked, the last posture posed, the last decision in the Commonwealth heads of government meeting at Kingston, Jamaica.

Wilson, as he keeps reminding us, has had more experience of these meetings than most, and knows well how to exploit them to his advantage. For him, the gains and losses far outweigh the losses. Wilson, as he keeps reminding us, has had more experience of these meetings than most, and knows well how to exploit them to his advantage. For him, the gains and losses far outweigh the losses.

Several images of Wilson tick in the mind—of him wielding a cigar of Churchillian length at the opening party and, on another party, mercilessly teasing an earnest American reporter trying to get a story out of him. Then sitting hunched over his radio at the weekend, listening to the Cup Final, while most other premiers departed themselves on the beach.

But my—and possibly his—most surprising memory is of the party in the morning of the conference will, this turn out to be of parties given by the Governor-General on the

## The ignorance and confusion that still surrounds animal experiments

Few topics generate such passion as vivisection. Experiments involving beagle dogs, in which the irritant power of smoke from tobacco substitutes has been compared with that from cigarettes, have attracted much attention from all quarters of the media comparable with the Maria Colwell case. Yet, despite the publicity, the entire subject of animal experimentation remains clouded by misunderstanding and ignorance.

In this country, experiments can be carried out only within a legal framework. Investigators must obtain a certificate appropriate to the projected study from the Home Office. The commonest certificate covers a wide range of procedures including, in addition to injection, inhalation, and feeding that involves dietary variation. In animals as in man, these acts cause negligible distress, and would not normally call for anaesthesia. Nonetheless, the statistician will find out of every six animals subjected to vivisection are not anaesthetized is frequently repeated.

The term vivisection is defined as "surgical operations conducted on living animals". To classify all animal experiments as therefore misleading and incorrect. In addition, the purpose of animal experimentation is to create situations that reproduce aspects of the human condition as closely as possible. As such, the range of experimental conditions is vast. Any attempt to extrapolate from the situation of a few dogs or groups of animals to the five and a half million creatures covered annually by existing legislation is totally unrealistic.

Scientific experimentation has reached such levels of sophistication and diversity that even scientists themselves, given only a few scraps of information, may be misled. To attempt such deductions is like assessing the performance and comfort of a car by examining the ignition key and a scrap of upholstery. The only way in which the public can gain a true understanding of the value of the information obtained by the experimenter is Mr Ryder said nothing.



Unfortunately the matter did not stop there. On April 9th in the House of Commons, Mr Philip Whitehead referred to "Victims of Science, and later to 'beagle dogs'". In fact, the point of the experiment was to discover how blindness caused by damage to the visual cortex can be partly cured by subtle techniques of visual retraining. The monkey was taught to see again, and the knowledge gained from this unique experiment is now being successfully applied to human patients whose cortical blindness had previously been considered irremediable.

Mr Whitehead's good faith is beyond reproach, but he seems to have been misled. Elsewhere, Mr Ryder's statements on thalidomide are highly misleading, while his account of nineteenth century physiology is breathtakingly wrong. Recently, certain organizations have been formed with the laudable target of financing searches for alternatives to animal experimentation. However, this has been an aim

of scientists for some decades, and their success is most impressive. To give just one example out of many, micro-organisms have been used for the production of a wide range of purposes, such as the assay of vitamins, in preparative procedures, and in working out metabolic pathways. Animals seldom form an ideal means of experimentation. Depending on the species selected, their physiological responses to a particular situation may differ in magnitude and kind. Rather than invalidating the animal approach, these differential reactions add an extra complicating dimension which scientists cannot ignore. In many circumstances, there remains no substitute for the whole animal, despite the drawbacks.

It is not untrue to say that the majority of the public is totally unaware of the huge debt owed to animal experiments. Most modern surgical procedures have been developed from animal models, and the safety of many drugs, antibiotics, and antisera, but also of an enormous variety of domestic articles depends on testing upon animals. For example, no sensible lady would swallow a lipstick, but her small child might, should

an additional toxic hazard be imposed in such an accident? Indeed, the welfare of modern society is so inextricably tied up with animal experimentation that to attempt to separate the two is impossible. Animals themselves are also beneficiaries, for nearly all veterinary medicine derives from its experimentation.

Mr Whitehead's Bill is due for its second reading tomorrow. It moves to amend existing legislation by discouraging the "non-medical purposes" of animal experimentation. But with the best will in the world, the distinction between these and medical purposes is difficult to draw. The testing of ordinary household and commercial items for toxicity and carcinogenicity can easily be made to look silly and cruel, but are we prepared to accept the extra hazard of new, untested consumer materials? In fact it is precisely when testing has been either inadequate or non-existent, as in the case of thalidomide and vinyl chloride, that disasters have occurred, followed by public outcry and protest. Society cannot have it both ways.

I make no plea for barbarity in animal experiments. I hold no brief for any licence holder who remains insensitive to the situation of his charges, but I doubt the existence of a single, untested consumer material. In fact it is precisely when testing has been either inadequate or non-existent, as in the case of thalidomide and vinyl chloride, that disasters have occurred, followed by public outcry and protest. Society cannot have it both ways.

My own experiments, solely with rodents, have taught me both a greater respect for God's creatures and a fuller understanding of many physiological mechanisms. My concern is the relief of suffering caused by disease through the application of fundamental knowledge. To me, the means are just as important as the end. That benefits from animal experimentation have accrued to both man and beast is undeniable; any attempt to modify the existing law is beset by complexity. I also believe that the presentation of further facts to the public can only weaken still further the case against animal experimentation.

Dr Robert Jones

The author is a biochemist involved in research on cancer, organ preservation and toxicology. © Times Newspapers Ltd, 1975

## The Times Diary

### Mr Wilson's nine day wonder

penultimate night. The heads of government were announced as they arrived and only two were applauded by the guests. One was the ever-popular revolutionary Julius Nyerere, the other the indestructible old troupier Wilson. Nobody had been able to explain this phenomenon satisfactorily.

Wilson had must of what he wanted from the conference. His commodities plan was regarded by most as more realistic than Forbes Burnham's rival strategy to save the world. He had little trouble with militant African over Rhodesia and he won their approval of his plan to send a minister to parley with the white regime there.

He also made a popular contribution to the discussion towards the end on comparative techniques of government—a topic which I ridiculed. I now think rather unfairly, in my opening dispatch from here. He spoke about the political advisers the Labour Party had inserted into the Civil Service

machine, and his talk so interested delegates that there was a move to return to discussion of it after the communiqué had been approved.

It also must have been a comfort for him to have Commonwealth support for Britain's continued membership of the European Community placed so unambiguously on the record, though he was careful to insist that he had not solicited this directly. (He was also lucky, as we all were, to have a valid excuse for absenting himself for nine days from the tedious of the referendum campaign.)

The Jamaicans can congratulate themselves on the smooth organization of the conference, apart from some slight trouble early on with the electricity supply and the breakdown of a crucial stamping machine at a crucial time. Security was thorough but not oppressive, and not a head of government was lost. Communications arrangements for the press worked excellently.

Nobody now claims that these

conferences are either of over-whelming importance, and interest. Most of us look forward with equanimity to the next, which will be held in London in 1977. That, incidentally, was another significant gain for Wilson for if he survives in office long enough to play host in 1977, he should be able to manipulate matters at least as successfully as he has done this time, which cannot at all harm his chances in the general election which by then will not be far away.

A police raid I should like to have witnessed took place in Trinidad, according to a report in the Daily Gleaner here. It was a raid on a cock fighting arena and was carried out by "a party of undressed police".

### Night watch

In March, Robin Young wrote about the campaign against the Greater London Council's plan to make the Bells Pond Road, where he lives, an official local road. On Tuesday night the campaign went a stage further, with a night traffic count by local residents and Young rose at 3.30 am to play his part. He reports:

Four of us huddled on deck

chairs beside the road. Our attention was turned to the Greater London Council was carrying out supervisory checks, so we were not to allow ourselves to be distracted by such frivolities as talking to passers-by or making tea. In fact, the other people who wanted to that were policemen, who invariably offered to drive their vehicles up and down the road several times if it would help.

As I had not been able to attend briefing sessions I was given the simplest job—the general count of traffic going toward Dalston. My colleagues and I analysed the heavy goods vehicles by type, number of axles, weight, length and ownership and this was a tricky job.

Our instructions included a diagrammatic map of 10 questions to ask ourselves as the lorries approached and passed, and our thought processes were our hands, and in which direction. Even with this painstaking guidance there were panicky moments when fast-moving convoys of six or seven lorries thundered toward Highbury Corner and our spotters' cries of "Three axles, national haulier, stripes (rear markings) weight, four axles, toxic tanker, long vehicle" were drowned in the din.

Between midnight and five nearly 100 lorries went past.

It think we can assume that Stonehouse is in favour of staying out of Europe...



and then the rate rapidly climbed past one a minute. This score was thought low, but the organizers said it strengthened our case for not having things made any worse. I should say from tonight that most of the Continentals don't

know this route at the moment," said one, "but put it on a map and they will all be coming. Anyway, a lorry every three minutes through the night is enough to ruin sleep." Certainly counting lorries is no substitute for counting sheep, and as the pace hotted up we found it quite exciting. "Here comes another victim," we cried when a big one hove in sight, as if we could turn the tables on our supposed tormentors by counting them. Anyway, some of the drivers gave us cheery waves as they went by.

### Horse sense

Henry Blake thinks of himself as a connoisseur and he can talk with horses as well as communicate with them by telepathy and extra-sensory perception. His book *Talking with Horses* is published today and we took Blake to Southall horse market to watch him strike up new acquaintanceships.

Blake's horse sense had told him long before we arrived that for many animals the gates would be the last stop before the knackers' yard, and the thought depressed him. Yet he immediately struck up a tremendous rapport with a chestnut party-thoroughbred called Oliver, who had been main ga nuisance of himself

by unteasing all the tell ropes he could reach.

Blake put his arm Oliver's neck, in intimate contact of the reassuring presence of a friendly horse adopt, and snorted into O nose in notes carefully made to resemble a horse's bleat. "Hello".

He was love, at first, Oliver stretched his neck, his teeth in a broad grin rolled his head ecstatically side to side. He licked Oliver's hand and kissed his little passionately. If others hear it, Blake said, Oliver would nip them or "punched with his upper jaw" because was still nervous.

Blake translated the conversations, conducted in language for which book provides a dictionary of mostly, saying things like: "Hello, who you? I am a friend, and away". What bothered him was an old black thoroughbred mare who was not taking of anything. She was, he resigned to an unhappy fate he left the ring before the started in case she persuaded him telepathically to buy for £200. He had to be wa said, because he had caught like that before



## Along the pipeline to power

by Patrick O'Leary

Mr Peter Lougheed, Premier of Alberta, has described this western prairie province as the storehouse of energy in Canada. Energy flows from 10,000 oil wells and through hundreds of miles of natural gas pipelines, providing more than 80 per cent of the nation's needs.

Energy also lies locked in vast oil sands and coal seams. With it has come self-confidence. Mr Donald Getty, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, says: "No one ignores Alberta any more. We now have their respect and attention, although not their love."

People see themselves as Canadians first and Albertans second, but there is at least a touch of "what's good for Canada is good for Alberta" and the sooner those easterners realize it the better.

When a western Canadian speaks of an easterner in such terms he means a politician, banker or industrialist in Ontario or Quebec, at the heart of the federation. Hostility dates from the Depression, when the western farmers were poor, while tariffs protected industrialized provinces.

Landlocked Alberta is closer to Mexico than the Atlantic. Its main export corridors run south into the United States and west through the mountains of British Columbia to the Pacific.

To the east lie the other prairie provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba, and Ottawa, seat of federal government in Ontario. The true easterners, the Atlantic provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland seem very far away.

Politics add to geographical isolation. Alberta has a Progressive Conservative Government, the three other western provinces are ruled by left-wing New Democrats.



Mr Lougheed seems to have adopted a conciliatory attitude when the premiers of the 10 provinces met Mr Trudeau, the Prime Minister, in Ottawa early in April. They were there to fix new prices for oil and gas. Canada is roughly self-sufficient in oil. But Alberta sends some to the United States by pipeline, while the Atlantic area imports oil.

Within Canada the price is kept to \$6.50 a barrel. Ottawa exports to the world, bringing them up to world prices, about \$12, and uses the proceeds to subsidize imports. Gas is also sold on a two-tier system.

Existing price agreements expire on June 30. Mr Lougheed said increases were necessary to encourage exploration for new wells both in Alberta and in the so-called frontier areas of the Yukon and the Northwest Territories in the Arctic above the 60th Parallel.

He was opposed by Mr William Davis, of Ontario, whose Progressive Conservative Government faces an election soon, and Mr Gerald Regan, Liberal Premier of Nova Scotia. No decision was taken, and further talks are expected.

Mr Trudeau said the oil price must rise towards world levels, but did not say how near or how fast. Mr Robert Bourassa, Premier of Quebec, and an old ally of Mr Lougheed, asked delegates to keep in mind the need for economic growth.

At the conference Mr Lougheed spoke from strength. In March he won an election, called to ascertain whether "the people have confidence in their Government's handling of the energy resources of Alberta".

Evidently they did, for Progressive Conservatives took 68 seats out of 75, leaving the right-wing Social Credit Party with four. It was a remarkable victory for a government which took office only in 1971 after 36 years of Social Credit rule.

Mr Lougheed restuffed his ministers in a way which indicates future policy. His deputy, Dr Hugh Hornor, became Minister of Transport. After energy, transport is of

prime importance to the province, for Albertans regard freight costs as a form of hidden tax.

Mr Lougheed, who formerly headed the energy committee, said he intended to shift, to the extent practical, his attention from energy matters to a number of the social areas of government.

The new Cabinet seems likely to pursue vigorously the policy set out by Mr H. Peacock, a minister who has since left the Government when he told the Legislative Assembly in February: "The decision was made to take Alberta into the twenty-first century with the own vehicle." This involved encouraging industries to process oil and gas instead of exporting them as raw materials.

The Government feels strongly that the economy of Alberta is too vulnerable, too dependent upon the sale of declining natural resources," he said. "We must develop an economic muscle, in the petrochemical industry, in processing oil and gas as raw materials."

The province's Energy Resources Conservation Board has suggested that \$32,000m should be spent over the next 30 years on power stations, oil sands, coal mines, plants to extract gas from coal, and the petrochemical industry.

Alberta is not all hydrocarbon and politics. Cattle and crops were the attraction for early settlers. It became the "Bible belt" country, home for Europeans of many lands and faiths. They found the Good Lord had provided plenty of lakes and rivers full of fish, good pasture, trees to cut down for log cabins, and, and, and the Rocky Mountains for scenery.

To stop man getting too uppish, he added a climate with a short growing season and sharp frosts, which meant hard work for farmers, and calving with snow on the ground for cows. The prairies still supply Britain and other countries with grain, and raise a large proportion of Canada's beef and pigs.

Alberta is young. It became a province in 1905, and the 1971 census showed that most of the inhabitants were under 24. It also has more males than females, and a minister lamented at the beginning of the year that no department had a woman in its top Civil Service post.

Well over half Alberta's 1,700,000 people live in or near Edmonton, the capital, and Calgary, home of oil and coal companies. Calgary is also the livestock centre, and cowboy hats are common in the office block along the streets.

Many families are no more than one or two generations, if that, away from the pioneer smallholding. One wealthy Calgary businessman looked at his city with mild pride and awe and said: "Just think, exactly 100 years ago there was nothing here at all." Edmonton has

the advantage there, because it began as a trading fort about 1800. If the forecasts are correct, the province's population will reach three million by 2004.

A rich oil strike at Leduc, near Edmonton, in 1947 transformed the economy, and rapidly rising prices since 1973 have completed the change. Apart from its own resources, likely to decline until the oil sands at Athabasca and elsewhere can be tapped extensively, the province is the base for exploiting the mineral wealth of arctic Canada. Pipelines from the Mackenzie Delta, and perhaps even the American state of Alaska, could be routed through it.

To British eyes, the pattern of government intervention in Alberta's economy is confusing. Utilities such as electricity and gas are supplied by private companies, and so is coal. Yet the Government has bought an air-line, started an energy company to invest in various enterprises, taken a stake in a steel company, and joined the Syncrude consortium to work oil sands.

Not only foreigners are confused. A Calgary Liberal commented: "We have a group of people who think they are free enterprisers. If you help somebody who cannot get a job, you are a socialist. If they buy an airline, that's conservatism."

Dr W. A. Buck, one of the few Social Credit members who retained his seat in the election, said: "Governments are intervening more and more in business. Profit is becoming a dirty word."

Much government intervention has been pragmatic rather than dogmatic. It has gone in, often reluctantly, to meet a crisis. When one backed out of the Syncrude scheme, both the Federal Government and that of Ontario joined Alberta in taking a stake.

Canadians draw a distinction between the "provincialization" of a company and nationalization. In the second case it is "big brother" interfering in the first gallant little Alberta defending property against Ottawa and big business.

Nevertheless the Government will have to find much money and bureaucratic skill



## Alberta

to keep its massive programme of action moving. However, there is brightness in the air. An official concerned with land use said: "If someone applies for permission to make geophysical exploration for oil or gas, we have to approve or modify the application in 11 days."

There is also two-way traffic between public servants and industry. One day you meet a businessman who has had a spell as a senior civil servant; on the next, someone outside the service just invited by a minister to join him to do a specific job.

Nor are leading jobs reserved for local men. One man heading a government agency said: "When I applied for the post, I never thought they would appoint a man from Toronto."

Another senior official said: "I came from Manitoba, half the staff are non-Albertans." A shiver ran through Alberta's prosperity last year. The Federal Government complained that the provinces — Saskatchewan and British Columbia — were believed to be mainly responsible for taking too much out of the oil industry in royalties, and leaving too little for income tax.

Mr Trudeau disallowed royalty payments in assessing the companies' profits for tax. Oilmen protested that it was no longer worth while prospecting for new sources, and some reduced drilling. In Alberta the Government quickly reduced its demands.

Even so, according to the *Financial Times* of Canada: "At the moment Alberta takes 40 per cent of the well-head price of a barrel of oil in royalties and taxes. Ottawa takes 20 per cent. This left only 40 per cent for costs and profit."

This is the first in a series of Special Reports on investment and development centres of the world, which will include the Philippines, Aberdeen, United Arab Emirates, Amsterdam, Wall Street, Beirut, Caracas, Tehran, Lima, Geneva, Singapore, Lagos, India, Hong Kong and Johannesburg. The series will be republished as a booklet available from the Marketing Department, The Times.

Mr Bruce Macdonald, president of a drilling firm, said: "Companies must know the ground rules, then they can make a deal." However, much depended on how often drilling proved successful.

The discovery ratio in Canada is one in 30, in the United States only one in 40," he said. "The best ratio in the world is in an area off the Shetlands, with two out of four. The British Government was criticized when they gave out a lot of permits, but they did get the exploration."

Mr R. W. Chapman, president of the Alberta Chamber of Commerce, said: "Drilling costs have changed rapidly. This is partly inflation, but oil was originally found at 3,000 to 5,000 ft. Now drilling is down to 15,000 ft and even 25,000 ft. If a drill bit is lost at that depth, the process of fishing for it is enormous."

Many sectors of the economy have been hit by rising costs. Canadians have what they call two-digit inflation. Mr John Turner, the Federal Finance Minister, intends to introduce a special budget. His ideas sound familiar. He talks of voluntary restraint on wages, prices and rents, and has indicated that the alternative would be a monetary policy creating unemployment.

It was seven years before the first commercial oil sands plant in Alberta showed a profit, in 1974. A partner in the bigger Syncrude project has said: "Early estimates were for capital investment of \$800m. Now it is more than \$2,000m." But work is going on to devise more economic techniques.

Sums like these make even Alberta's Heritage Trust, expected to reach \$1,500m this year, a modest nest egg. Derived from oil royalties, the money will be invested in industries which help to diversify the economy and benefit future generations of Albertans. The team supervising the fund has been dubbed the gnomes of Edmonton.

Albertans realize that they are not immune to the tides of world recession. But, with rich resources in minerals, food and timber, they say the province has suffered merely a downturn in the upturn of its economy.

## Hope for more British trade

One British mission visited Alberta last month; another is due to arrive later this month. Firms there welcome the invasion—they have often complained that all they see of representatives of European industry is the vapour trail as they fly over the prairies from Toronto to Vancouver.

In western Canada there is a sentiment in business. Other things being equal, Albertans like to buy British. But the other things have to be equal; if the Japanese offer a better product, or the Americans provide quicker delivery and more reliable servicing, they will almost certainly get the orders.

The warm welcome comes naturally from a province where roughly half the inhabitants are of British stock. "You must be from Jolly old," a taxi-driver greeted me. When I looked baffled he explained with a marked mid-western accent: "You know, jolly old England."

An Albertan is quick to tell you how much he enjoyed his visit to London or Edinburgh last year, or how much he looks forward to his visit next year; or even how much pressure he is under from his wife to make the trip to see her family back home.

It would be unwise for the visiting businessman to rely too heavily on this kind-and-kin feeling. He may meet people descended from nineteenth-century Scots and Irish settlers who fled from oppression at home.

In this century they were followed by others driven abroad by the depression between the two world wars. In Canada they were joined by Germans, Ukrainians, Poles and Scandinavians, for some of whom English is still not their first language.

There were homesteaders who settled in the province after several unsuccessful attempts to find security in more eastern parts of the continent. As they moved west, their links with the other side of the Atlantic grew weaker.

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long trek said: "When some of us talk about the old country, we mean Saskatchewan." He jerked his head in the direction of the neighbouring province.

The journey is easier now for the businessman who flies into Edmonton, capital of Alberta, to learn about the multi-million and even multi-billion dollar developments contemplated in the area. He has little chance of becoming a main contractor for the bigger schemes—in any case several are connected with the kind of oil and gas projects which Britain is having some difficulty in supplying in our own North Sea.

But even a small piece of the action is worth bidding for when there is talk of having several oil sands reclamation operations costing \$2,000m each, or spending what is loosely described as \$7,000m on piping gas from Alaska and the Mackenzie Delta in the Arctic.

One British delegation, sponsored by the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry and supported by the British Overseas Trade Board, spent a week in Alberta at the end of April. Members then flew on to British Columbia and Texas.

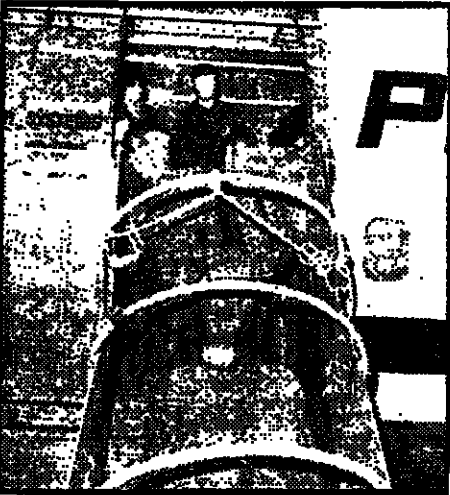
It was called an oil development mission, and in addition to Edmonton, the members visited Calgary, where many companies in the industry have their headquarters, and flew north to Fort McMurray. This town is expected to treble its 10,000 population when the Athabasca oil sands production is expanded.

The firms represented covered a wide range of activities, from making electrical control equipment and generators, to merchant banking. The Albertans, who like to talk to people in a position to make decisions, must have been pleased to find several managing directors among the team.

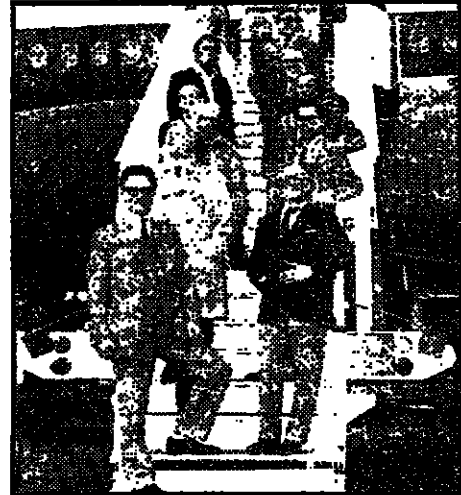
Firms had been told there were sales opportunities in boilers, valves, piping, pumps, feedheaters, furnaces, compressors, civil engineering, mechanical handling, instrumentation.

"We want less reliance on both oil and agriculture," he said. "There must be a third segment in the economy, and a little more equitable location of industry within Alberta. We want steady growth in the smaller communities."

P.O.L.



The British presence: Hereford cattle arriving at Edmonton, and the London Chamber of Commerce trade mission leaving Heathrow last month.



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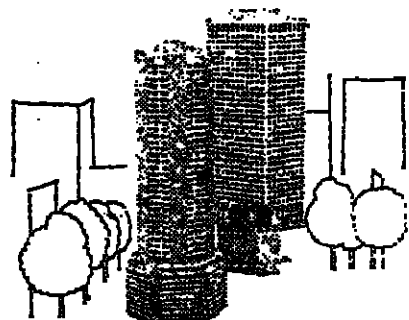
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## Coal

## Construction

## Cost of living

## Electric power

Most of the sub-bituminous coal deposits are situated close to the surface and are near the main electric power load centres. Natural gas is available in quantity and reliably at the principal load centres. Although gas is marginally more expensive than coal, lower capital cost of gas-fired plants largely offsets this.

Hydroelectric power is produced along the Bow river system west of Calgary and along the North Saskatchewan river system lying next to the foothills of central Alberta. Its steam, hydro-gas turbine and internal combustion plants had a total net capability of about 2,500 megawatts at the end of 1971, generating approximately 10,400,000 m. wat-

Power plants and the principal consumption centres are connected by extensive transmission and distribution lines extending from Medicine Hat in the south-east to north-west Alberta. The growing demand for electrical energy, particularly in reflecting industrial expansion, was seen in a 10 per cent increase in the amount of electricity generated in 1973, and an expected increase of a further 10 per cent for 1974.

Mr E. W. King, president of Canadian Utilities, said that economic activity in Alberta should continue to expand in 1974 with the start of main resource development projects. "Gas sales in 1974 are expected to increase approximately 6 per cent over the 1973 level. . . . Extensive development of Alberta's oil sands now seems assured, and these developments will provide significant growth opportunities in the area served by our utility companies."

Although continued growth prospects for electricity are excellent, earnings are likely to feel the impact of inflationary pressure, offsetting the downward cost trend for electricity caused by substantial economies of scale. Plants are being developed for big increases in capacity, with substantial capital outlay to come into production in the late 1970s.

## Petroleum and natural gas

## Economic indicators for Alberta

Indicator	Percentage change in volume activity		
	Total year 1973-72	Year to date 1974-73	
<b>Manufacturing</b>			
Slaughtered meat production	- 2.2	-	9.7 (Jan-Oct)
Slaughtered meat exported	- 0.6	-	4.9 (Jan-Oct)
Refinery production	+ 10	+ 10.0	(Jan-Sept)
Cement production	+ 7.8	-	1.1 (Jan-Oct)
<b>Mining</b>			
Oil production	+ 19.6	-	2.1 (Jan-Sept)
Gas production	+ 7.3	+ 1.0	(Jan-Sept)
Footage drilled	+ 28.3	-	4.9 (Jan-Sept)
Number of wells drilled	+ 33.2	+ 43.7	(Jan-Sept)
Coal production	+ 0.4	+ 1.0	(Jan-Sept)
<b>Construction</b>			
Urban dwelling starts	- 7.2	-	15.8 (Jan-Oct)
Rigid insulation board shipments to Alberta	- 1.7	-	16.8 (Jan-Oct)
Value of Alberta building permits	+ 20	+ 44.4	(Jan-Oct)
<b>Agriculture</b>			
Grain shipments	- 16.4	+ 1.5	(Jan-Nov)
Livestock marketed	- 6.4	-	11.1 (Jan-July)
Farm cash receipts	+ 32.3	+ 47.7	(Jan-Oct)
<b>Forestry</b>			
Lumber production	+ 33.6	-	15.8 (Jan-Oct)
Lumber sales	+ 17.5	-	21.0 (Jan-Oct)
Lumber exports	+ 2.5	-	35.7 (Jan-Oct)
Pulpwood production	+ 46.6	+ 114.7	(Jan-Oct)
<b>Unemployment rate (unadjusted)</b>	<b>Oct 1974</b>	<b>Nov 1973</b>	<b>Oct 1973</b>
Canada	4.4%	5.0%	4.6%
Alberta	1.7%	4.0%	3.1%
<b>Consumer Price Index (1961=100)</b>			
Calgary-Edmonton	161.4	145.9	145.1

## Oil sands

Ottawa and Alberta have agreed to establish an Alberta oil sands environmental research programme. Its cost is estimated at about \$40m, to be expended over 10 years. Canada and Alberta will both spend about \$2m a year. The main aim is to make information available to ensure that an acceptable quality of the environment during and after operations for the recovery, transport and processing of oil sands products.

## General

executive centre of Alberta's petroleum industry while Edmonton, the capital and largest city (442,365 population), is the gateway to the north.

Other cities are Grande Prairie, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat and Red Deer. Major routes to the north originate in Alberta: the MacKenzie Highway, the Alaska Highway, the Great Slave Lake Railway and the Northern Alberta Railway which connect at Fort McMurray to a water transport system reaching to the Atlantic.

Alberta's area of 255,283 sq miles includes 6,485 sq miles of fresh-water lakes. The temperature is very varied but the climate has low humidity. Alberta is one of the sunniest Canadian provinces and most settled areas have 2,000 to 2,300 hours of strong sunshine a year, helping to make it one of the most developed agricultural economies in the world.

Alberta's population is 1,709,000 (as of April 1, 1974). This is 7.5 per cent of the population of Canada. The Premier of Alberta is Mr. Peter Lougheed, head of

Alberta has discovered as well as agriculture important

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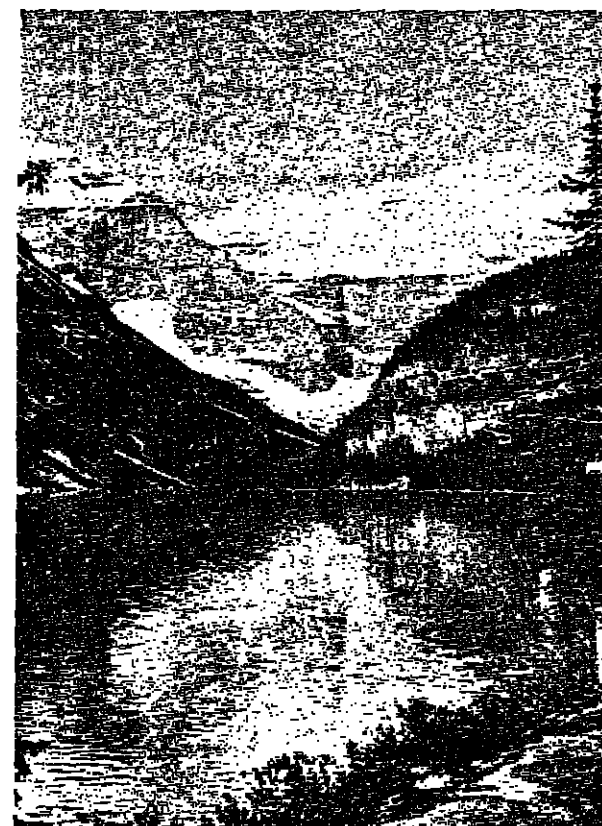


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THE TIMES

## No lack of investment cash

by Patrick O'Leary

A survey prepared by the province's Department of Industry and Commerce forecast that investment in Alberta up to 1978 will increase at an average annual rate of between 8 and 9 per cent.

As 25 projects already launched or under consideration are expected to cost \$8,000m many people are wondering where the money will come from to finance this rapid growth.

One source could be the Alberta Stock Exchange. This began life more than 60 years ago as the Calgary Oil and Stock Exchange. Fortunes were made and lost in the early days—people queued outside brokers' offices to buy shares in 1914. There was another spectacular boom when big oil finds were made after the Second World War.

A silver plated oil drill stands on a shelf in the office of Mr. J. R. Thomson, president of the exchange. He emphasized that the exchange had deliberately shed the image of a wildly fluctuating oil market, to become a stable one handling a diversity of shares.

"We are the toughest exchange in Canada," he said. "Supervision is strict, especially with newcomers." "There is so much money available for investment in the province. We have a larger cash flow from individual investors than in some other provinces, but institutional investment is not so high as, say, Winnipeg. Institutional investment goes mostly to companies here, the Toronto exchange, with which we have a close association."

Income tax on corporations and individuals in Canada is collected by the Federal Government which then passes part of the proceeds to provincial governments. Alberta announced last year that it would like to terminate this arrangement with respect to corporate tax.

Mr. Lougheed's Government wants to be able to adjust the burden on corporations to encourage Alberta-based companies to establish new industries and expand existing ones. The incentives, principally intended to benefit smaller companies, would include tax holidays and deductions for expenses incurred for research and development, and for freight costs on goods exported from the province.

A few weeks before the



Mr. J. R. Thomson, president of Alberta Stock Exchange (left), and Mr. M. Leitch, Provincial Treasurer.

election in March, Mr. Gordon Minzley, then Provincial Treasurer, introduced a budget into the Alberta Legislature. As sometimes happens in other countries in similar circumstances, it was a popular budget, cutting income tax by \$123m and increasing expenditure.

With justifiable pride Mr. Minzley told members: "Albertans will now enjoy the lowest personal income tax rate in Canada. We have no sales tax, and the lowest property and gasoline taxes in Canada."

He reminded them that part of the royalties levied on crude oil production would be placed in the Alberta Heritage Trust Fund. This fund, which he expected to reach \$1,500m by the end of this year, would not be used to meet ordinary expenditure. "It must be invested in such a way as to promote diversification of our economic base, ensure the prosperity of future generations of Albertans."

Because of the election, the House will now have to restart its budget deliberations at the end of May. The Government has already taken stakes in various enterprises, including oil sands development, and an airline, and has set up the Alberta Energy Company. This intends to buy its way into various projects, and eventually will participate financially in petrochemical and other energy-based enterprises.

An opportunity to test public confidence in these policies will come from the offering of shares in filling in tax forms. Their publicity is unhampered by British standards. "Save a bundle on your income tax," says a sign over one office.

A few weeks before the

## Mood of discontent

by John Young

Despite the real links that bind the English-speaking Commonwealth—EEC or no EEC—the British united little island, have little concept of the nature of huge underpopulated federations like Canada and Australia. The Scots and the Welsh may be making nationalistic noises, northerners may sometimes feel they are getting a raw deal from London, but in Canada the provinces have been at loggerheads with the federal authorities for several decades.

Nowhere is this more true than in the two western provinces of Alberta and British Columbia. Feelings have at times run so high that even serious observers have suggested that secessionist sentiments are stronger in the far west than in Quebec.

Pacific though these ideas may be, the fact is that Alberta feels itself to be remote from the mainstream of eastern Canadian political and economic life. Since the black gold was first pumped out of the grasslands of Leduc and Turner Valley, it has become Canada's third richest province after Ontario and British Columbia. But Albertans are inclined to ask themselves why they are not to the number one spot.

Federation, they claim, has consistently worked to the west's disadvantage; hence the tendency to contradict national political trends, and the success of Poujadist parties like Social Credit which capitalize on a general mood of discontent. That same discontent has led to a would-be independence stance on external relations. If Ottawa cannot or will not give what we want, the argument runs, then we will conclude our own arrangement with the Americans, the Japanese, and anyone else who may be interested. But, when it comes to the point, Albertans are not quite sure what they have to offer, and their would-be trading partners are, not quite sure what they have to gain.

Since the Americans first came to Calgary and did their best to turn it into a sort of mini-Houston, many Albertans have concluded that their best interests lie in closer relations with the United States. The American markets in the Midwest and in California are richer, far more populous and no farther away than Ontario and Quebec, and a potential source of massive new investment. But markets for what? Investment in what?

It is here that the paradox of Alberta becomes apparent. Like the oil-rich nations of the Middle East, it wants to use its wealth to diversify, to attract manufacturing industry and to build a society less dependent on a single raw material. But the harsh facts are that the province is relatively remote, thinly populated, offers only a small local market, cannot provide a stable skilled labour force and is evidently unable to control its own internal imbalance between the two dominant cities of Edmonton and Calgary, which are already showing the characteristic signs of metropolitan bifurcation, and the scattered communities which dot the rest of the map.



Mr. Andrew Snaddon, editor of the Edmonton Journal, which was founded in 1904 before Alberta became a province. The first issue ran to 1,000 copies but the circulation now is 170,000. Mr. Snaddon once worked in London.



Mr. Ralph Garvin Steinbauer, an Indian of the Cree tribe and grandson of a missionary, was appointed Lieutenant Governor of Alberta last year. His duties include presiding at official functions and entertaining distinguished guests.

## Big decisions start with breakfast

Working customs in Alberta differ from those in Britain. This became apparent when a request to see a British representative in Edmonton produced the reply that he would be happy to see me, but could do so only over breakfast at 7.45.

It seemed a clear case of succumbing to North American hustle, but I need not have worried. He proved to be unruffled, shrewd, and helpful in the best traditions of British diplomacy; also informed and enthusiastic about the prospects for trade, which is perhaps not so traditional.

He and his colleagues are responsible for Saskatchewan as well as Alberta and look after more than half the Northwest Territories and all the Arctic islands and arctic territories not specifically allocated to other posts. So long days are not uncommon.

An early start is normal in the province. When a businessman tells me he does not look smug, but he likes to leave at 4.30; if you must see him at that time on Friday afternoon he will receive you courteously, but with reason. Director, into his weekend had better be good.

Work is taken seriously, but it does not prevent executives chatting relaxedly with visitors over the ever-available cups of good coffee. There is an absence of the high-powered, hierarchical approach.

The president of one international company, met, went round the offices of his principal aides before leaving at night to see if anyone wanted a word with him. Another, who heads one of the largest corporations in western Canada, said he rarely found time for more than two or three days holiday. Yet he shared a secretary with another director, and far from seeming overwhelmed by responsibilities, spoke with enthusiasm of his collection of books and prairie paintings.

Annual vacations are usually limited to two or three weeks, but Alberta, with the rest of Canada, has a generous number of public holidays, including the Queen's official birthday, Labour Day and Remembrance Day. These have to be avoided by anyone making appointments.

In spite of the unassuming way of life in Edmonton and Calgary, it is no handicap to be a peer. Lord Garnock, who is vice-chairman of the Canadian division of the North American advisory board of the British Overseas Trade Board, looks forward with pleasure to leading a trade mission to Alberta and British Columbia later in May.

He said: "The develop-



Lord Garnock

ment of industrial projects is on a scale which is mind-boggling even by North American standards. British industry needs to get in fast.

"We have been selling Canada round Britain. At seminars in Birmingham, London, Manchester, Glasgow and Sheffield we reached about 450 companies."

Lord Garnock gave a warning: "It is frightfully important to realize Alberta is a separate market. It cannot be served from Toronto. A manufacturer must be prepared to establish a local distributor or subsidiary, and provide service on a continuing basis."

Others who know the market underlined the importance of quick servicing. One said: "If a piece of equipment breaks down in the arctic, it costs thousands of dollars a day while work is held up. Operators cannot wait two or three weeks for a spare part or an engineer to come from Toronto or London."

Another said: "They are very friendly and straightforward people, who want to get on with it, from the Premier down to the man on the drilling rig. You can ring up the president of a company, and he will tell you to come round for a chat."

Quick decisions are important. An Edmonton city official said: "Firms should do their homework first. We do not expect the representative of a firm to have full authority to make a decision, but we do expect him to be able to say the arrangement is 85 per cent certain, and then firm it up as soon as he gets back to London."

Inflation on British scales is not something Canadians want to import. "Some firms are putting on increases of 2 to 3 per cent a month—that's right out," one businessman said.

On the other hand, Britons need not feel too diffident when the question of industrial disputes arises. Canada is second in the world league of strike-prone nations—and Britain is not first.

P.O.L.

## Work—and the will to succeed

About 35 per cent of Albertans are out of work. That is as full employment in a country where the national average is twice that figure, and the situation is worse in the United States.

At the end of 1974 there were 96,000 more people in employment in the province than in 1971. Fastest growth had been in manufacturing and service industries, because of a policy of encouraging diversification in the economy, with particular emphasis on setting up processing plants.

As a minister told the Legislative Assembly in February: "We are insisting as much as is practicable that our raw materials are processed and upgraded in Alberta so that we do not export jobs with our resources."

Although Alberta still makes only a small proportion of Canada's manufactured goods, it has factories producing plastics, cigarette filters, leather goods, furniture, textiles, paper, chemicals, electrical equipment, farm machinery and other items.

It has always been strong in food processing, with meat packing stations and breweries—recently joined by the production of wine from concentrated grapes. Other additions have been plants turning out cattle food, processed potatoes, honey and cheese, with other ventures in what is known locally as agribusiness.

Many of these enterprises were begun by men with little more than a good idea and the will to succeed. One is Mr. Bruce Niswold, awarded the Order of Canada in 1970 for the contribution to the development of the north made by heavy cross-country vehicles he designed.

The vehicles, equipped with tracks or giant tyres, have been used by the petroleum, forestry and hydroelectric industries, and the armed forces, when operating in deep snow, mud or swamp. They have also served in deserts and the Brazilian jungle, and the Soviet Union has bought some for work in Siberia.

Alberta's industry and commerce department assists in the process of expansion and diversification, and in attracting new industries. An export agency has been created to advise on selling outside the province, and to encourage joint ventures between Albertan companies and those based in other parts of Canada or abroad.

Some men working in factories do so to save enough money to pay the deposit on a farm. "We are seeing more young people go back into agriculture than has been the case for 20 years," an official said. But

another added that, to make a living, a farmer needed about 800 acres, and a minimum of \$50,000 (about £20,000) capital.

Several industries, and professions are short of skilled men. Engineers, accountants and town planners appear to be among those in demand. This has led to a flow of people into the province from eastern Canada and elsewhere. Net immigration this year is expected to reach 14,000, rising to a steady 20,000 annually in the 1980s.

Ministers hope some will be Albertans who went to the United States and other countries when jobs were scarce. Quite a number work in Britain's North Sea oil industry. Immigration from abroad is strictly controlled by the Federal Government, and only jobs which cannot be done by unemployed Canadians are offered to foreigners.

Alberta's Government would like to see more employment open to Indians and Eskimos, to mixed-race Métis, the handicapped, and to women. Education and training have a role to play in this.

Alberta seems to have fewer strikes than other provinces, although dock and railway stoppages affect its trade even when they occur over the borders. But it must be a little homesick to read that a demarcation dispute between boilermakers and steamfitters had stopped work at two power plants.

P.O.L.



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## Mr Benn likely to clash with PO watchdogs over study to break monopoly

By Maurice Corina  
Industrial Editor

A clash between Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, and Lord Peddie, independent chairman of the Post Office Users' Council, is threatened over a potentially embarrassing investigation the council is conducting.

Mr Benn is expected to express his disapproval of a council decision to examine the case for breaking the Post Office Corporation's supply monopoly of certain types of telephone equipment.

The Council of Post Office Users has, it is understood, written to Mr Benn asking for a meeting to discuss the matter. They claim that Lord Peddie and his fellow members, who are the secretary "watchdogs" over customer interests, are going too far.

For Mr Benn the action of Lord Peddie in seeing whether private enterprise ought to supply more equipment directly to customers could not have come at a more awkward time. Mr Benn is now awaiting recommendations from the corporation's board, in answer to a ministerial directive, on how

it proposes to extend its involvement in the private sector of equipment manufacturing. He has suggested the choice of acquiring a state holding in an appropriate manufacturing company or undertaking greater Post Office self-manufacture by joint venture arrangements.

The Post Office Board is now agonizing over the issue and there is talk that a whole day's meeting may be held to resolve the corporation's policy towards Mr Benn's ideas. Their dilemma is that many executives are opposed to more Post Office involvement in manufacturing, arguing that manufacturing is best left to the big companies, CEC, the Plessey Group, and Standard Telephones and Cables.

A decision to keep the Post Office out of own-manufacture would send off a substantial political row, with the trade unions lining up with Mr Benn and demanding a directive.

It is an indication of the mood of the unions that Mr Bryan Stanley, general secretary of the Post Office Engineering Union, has written to all the corporation's board members and Mr Benn. He states that "in the short-term there are substantial advantages to be gained from

the public acquisition, under Post Office control, of at least one of the existing private manufacturers".

Since the letter, the Council of Post Office Users has met and agreed to request a meeting with Mr Benn "about the activities of the Post Office Users' Council".

Yesterday the Department of Industry said it had not yet received the request. It pointed out that Lord Peddie's council is answerable to Mrs Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

Lord Peddie and his council decided to examine the scope for allowing telecommunications equipment suppliers more freedom by dealing direct with Post Office customers because it had evidence that some customers would like this. Questionnaires have been sent out to gauge customer opinions.

The council argues that it is well within its rights to study the facts on the supply of subscribers' apparatus. It is not setting out to question the Post Office's present monopoly on the supply of certain equipment, rather to examine the way in which it exercises that monopoly power.

## BLMC chief says need of jobs cut is paramount

By Edward Townsend

Mr Pat Lowry, British Leyland's director of industrial relations, said yesterday that a reduction in manning levels throughout the corporation was of paramount importance.

His remarks represent the first clear statement from the company since the publication of the Ryder Report of the need for cuts among the 195,000 workers.

Speaking to the trade and industry sub-committee of the Commons Expenditure Committee, Mr Lowry said: "We have got to persuade people, whether there is a Ryder Report or not, that the need to reduce manning levels is absolutely paramount."

Mr Lowry, Lord Stokes, the chairman, Mr John Barber, the deputy managing director, Mr Alex Park, the new chief executive, and Mr Ron Ellis, managing director of the truck and bus division, all gave further evidence at the sub-committee's motor industry inquiry.

Questioned about manning, Mr Lowry said that levels would not be reduced at a stroke or by some magic formula agreed between the unions and the management. The problem was to persuade people and to negotiate with them to accept the reality of the kind of standards to be set.

In the last month, he said, about 2,000 people had left Leyland for one reason or another and the end of last year, the total work force had dropped from 201,000 to 195,000.

Asked if the proposed huge investment by the Government would lead to a smaller work force, Mr Lowry said it would depend on the market situation. If the market was good, then the probability of a substantial reduction in the work force would be less.



Mr Lowry: no magic formula.

Large amounts of money might make people think they had reached Eldorado, Mr Lowry said, but the company had to make them understand that Leyland was in an international situation competing with international manufacturers.

Mr Barber said earlier that he agreed in general with the Ryder report's findings, except for the proposals on restructuring. British Leyland had been working as an integrated motor company like most others in the world. The Ryder team had opted for a financial holding company, with which he disagreed.

Some 70 per cent of the business was on the car side and decisions taken at the car production end would be crucial to the company's future. It would be wrong for such decisions to be pushed down to divisional level, Mr Barber said.

Mr Park, questioned about profitability, said that initially Leyland would be operating without dividends. Profits would come, but he did not know if they would be enough to pay back the loan to the Government at whatever would then be the appropriate cost of capital.

## Fresh proposals put to Dunlop strikers

By R. W. Shakespeare

Talks between management and union representatives at five Dunlop engineering factories in Coventry ended last night after five hours of negotiations aimed at ending a fortnight-old strike by 700 clerical workers. The company made new proposals which will be put to a mass meeting next Monday.

The stoppage, over demands for a £10 a week pay increase, has closed the factories and made 2,000 other Dunlop workers idle.

This in turn has cut off supplies of wheel and suspension units for the motor industry, and 12,500 British Leyland workers at Cowley, Oxford, and Longbridge, Birmingham, are already laid off.

Production of the recently launched 18/22 car range is

already at a standstill, and today output of the Triumph Toledo range made at Speke, Liverpool, will also be cut.

More car workers will have to be sent home, and British Leyland has given warning that unless the Dunlop strike is settled, between 70 and 80 per cent of its total car output will be stopped.

The talks between the union representatives and management began yesterday afternoon after a meeting with the strike committee's spokesman said that this had been brought forward.

The clerical workers, who claim that their earnings have fallen behind those of manual and supervisory staff, have already rejected a management offer of increases of between 57 and 58 a week for men, and 56.25 for women.

## Sugar refiners to get details of subsidy soon

By Hugh Clayton

Sugar refiners will be told this week about the size of subsidy which the Government will grant to keep the cane-based industry competitive with EEC beet. If total consumption was subsidized fully up to the present, the price would cost more than £50m.

Under EEC rules, the payment, which will start after July, must be linked to the Community threshold price which is set at about 10 per cent in July to £164 a ton.

The subsidy announcement, probably tomorrow, will be linked to the fixing of a lower subsidized price for refined sugar in September.

## OECD optimism over renewal of trade pledges

There is now optimism in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development that virtually all the original signatories to the 1974 interim pledge against import restrictions will subscribe to its renewal for a further year when it expires on May 30.

This confidence follows two days of discussions by the 24 members of the OECD which met at a special session of the executive committee.

The meeting was intended to clear the way for the OECD ministerial gathering for the end of this month. There has been speculation that Britain might not feel able to sign because of the balance of payments position.

## Treasury aim queried as sterling weakens

By Melvyn Westlake

Sterling continued its steady decline on the foreign exchange yesterday. The floating pound's depreciation against ten other key currencies since the Smithsonian party resignation of December, 1971, reached 23.5 per cent—its worst level yet compared with 23.3 per cent in the previous year.

During the last 13 working days the pound has depreciated 1.4 percentage points, or just over 0.1 a day. This decline has increased speculation that the Government has adopted a more permissive exchange rate policy.

Such speculation has not been quelled by the statement of Mr Denis Healey, the Chancellor, in the Commons last week that the pound was not going to fall any lower. In fact, since his statement, it has dropped a further 0.7 per cent.

One widely held view is that a level of about 25 per cent is the main objective of the Treasury. If the pound continued to decline at the pace

it has done in recent days, the 25 per cent level would be established by the end of this month.

There is certainly little evidence that the Bank of England has intervened in the market to prop up the sterling exchange rate.

Trading on the exchanges yesterday was fairly quiet with many financial centres closing early for today's Ascension Day holiday.

Stock market firm: Another 50m in rights issue, from Imperial Assurance and Leonard Fairsclough, made for a dull start on the London stock market yesterday.

But with the aid of a shortage of stock, the market's underlying tone was firm, and by the close of business there had been a useful rally.

Fresh talk of a wage freeze after the EEC Referendum gave an added firmness towards the end of the day and the FT 100 rose to 322.9. Gilt had a quiet session though again they were harder at the end.

## New private health plan is launched

By Margaret Stone

At a time when private medical treatment is under increasing pressure both from the Government and trades unions, battle is about to be joined in the private medical insurance field. Allied Medical Assurance, a relative newcomer to the market, yesterday launched a new group medical insurance scheme which it hopes will replace BUPA and PPP schemes in major companies.

Its Mutual Benefit Health Insurance plan is based upon the almost certain fact that there will be far fewer private hospital places in the next few years and that companies are unwilling to pay heavy fixed annual costs for treatment which, with the best will in the world, it might be impossible to obtain that year.

What Allied has done is to arrange for companies to pay only 40 per cent of the basic premium initially and thereafter to pay the balance according to its claims experience.

With a £10,000 upper limit on all medical expenses per employee substantially more than offered by all its competitors, and a competitive premium rate also, Allied Medical is hoping to break into the traditional BUPA-PPP ground.

Dr Michael Sinclair, managing director of Allied Investment, parent of Allied Medical Assurance, yesterday forecast that in a year's time there would be only about 1,000 pay-beds in National Health hospitals.

In a speech to business writers here, Dr Sinclair said that the Government's health policy was to look forward to some improvement economically in the third and fourth quarters of 1975 and they ought to improve in 1976.

In a speech to business writers here, Dr Sinclair said that the Government's health policy was to look forward to some improvement economically in the third and fourth quarters of 1975 and they ought to improve in 1976.

## Record loans to building societies

Despite the recent reduction in rates to investors, building societies received a record £350m inflow of funds during April, according to preliminary estimates.

The figure compares with £274m in March and is certain to result in further demands for a cut in the mortgage rate. This possibility will undoubtedly be raised today when Mr Anthony Crosland, the Environment Secretary, meets the Building Societies Association to discuss the recent cuts in local authority mortgage lending.

Equities staged a good rally after 50m of rights issues. Gilt-edged securities had a quiet session.

Gold rose \$2.00 an ounce, closing at \$166.00. Sterling closed unchanged at \$2.3385. The effective devaluation

rate was 23.5 per cent. SDR-5 was 124276 on Wednesday while SDR-5 was 0.531544. Commodities: Cocoa rose by up to £16.50 million ton. Rubber commodity index was 1,063.9 (1,063.1 on Tuesday).

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## Prudential surprises the market with a rights issue to raise £46m

By Adrienne Gleeson

Prudential Assurance yesterday took the market by surprise with the announcement of a one-for-five rights issue at 105p, which is to raise £46m.

The money is to be used to support the expansion of the group's non-life interests, where the solvency ratio (the ratio of "free" assets to premium income) has been under pressure both from last year's fall in asset values and from the effects of inflation on premium income, now running at over £200m annually. Also, the move is evidently a response to recent regulations, effective from the beginning of next year, which lift the statutory solvency ratio from 10 to 16 per cent and which impose stringent conditions upon the valuation of assets.

The discount to the shares in issue, which fell by 5p over the day to 121p, is considered by brokers to be "not over-generous", but the yield on the new shares, at 7.5 per cent on the forecast of a dividend which will be at least maintained at the net level, is considered sufficiently attractive to give the issue a good start, despite the uncertainties for the market as a whole implicit in the intervening referendum.

Underwriting, which was arranged by J. Henry Schroder Wagg, went well, with the bankers meeting with "very few refusals".

At the end-December balance sheet date, the Prudential's surplus assets on its non-life funds were 37 per cent of premium income, but the director reckoned that at the moment this ratio computed as a whole would be somewhat less, and that asset margins should be raised.

With the proposed increase in shareholders' funds they believe that there will be no need to restrict the natural growth of the group, and that there will be scope to further its development.

The directors are relatively optimistic about the outlook for the group as a whole, saying that there are welcome signs of more realistic premium rates for the non-life business in a number of countries, and that the expansion in investment income is expected to continue.

Moreover, the director believes that the good rate of growth achieved in the life business in 1974, and continued so far into the current year, will be reflected in an increased transfer from life funds to the non-life funds, and that this might be further increased if a fall from the rates of interest prevailing at the end of last year made it appropriate to value the liabilities of the life branches on lower interest bases.

Financial Editor, page 19

## American group withdraws from BP's Shetland pipeline and terminal project

By Roger Violette

Energy Correspondent

An offshore exploration group led by Union Oil of California is withdrawing from the million barrel a day pipeline from the Shetland oilfield to Sherrin, because of a serious dispute over terms for participating in the project.

At the same time a number of the larger companies with major oil finds in the North Sea got a sharp rap over the knuckles from Lord Balogh, the Minister of State for Energy, for failing to respond more readily to Government requests for renegotiation of their North Sea licences.

Lord Balogh's statement indicates the growing Government impatience with the lack of progress in talks with the major oil companies over conceding the principle of 51 per cent state participation.

Without mentioning the company by name, Lord Balogh singled out British Petroleum for special criticism. BP is also involved in the dispute over the withdrawal of the Union oil group from the Shetland pipeline, and with the other participants including Standard Oil of California and Burmah, could be embarrassed by the smaller group's action.

Union Oil found the Heather field, a few miles from the route of the Ninian pipeline to Shetland. The field is thought to be capable of producing between 100,000 and 150,000 barrels of oil a day, which with the 350,000 barrels a day from Ninian would have half-filled the line.

Withdrawal from the project, and also the onshore terminal facilities at Sullom Voe in Shetland, was said to be because of "uncertainties and objectionable provisions" in the agreements covering the pipeline and the terminal.

A Union Oil spokesman said the company was worried about the guarantees required concerning the pipeline and terminal agreements and also the increased cost estimated for building the line.

Withdrawal, however, does not mean the company is abandoning the development of the Heather field. A steel production platform has been ordered and Union said it was considering using tankers to bring the oil ashore.

Texaco announced yesterday that a second well drilled on its oilfield in block 15/16, adjacent to the Piper field, had disclosed an extension of the reservoir. The company has a second rig working on the same structure.

## EEC moves nearer textile import barriers

From David Cross

Brussels, May 7

In response to growing concern among EEC textile manufacturers, the European Commission today took its first tentative step towards restricting imports from non-member countries.

At its weekly meeting in Brussels, the Commission decided to institute from July 1, a strict monitoring system for imports of virtually all sensitive textile goods into the Community.

The move is seen here as a first warning shot across the bows of overseas cotton producers to keep a tight control over their exports.

## Titan payment 'overdue' as charter talks continue

By Margaret Drummond

Mr Hilmar Reksten, the Norwegian shipping magnate, now seems to be in technical default of the charter agreement for Titan, the 226,000-dwt supertanker leased from a United Kingdom shipping group, Ocean Transport & Trading.

A spokesman for Ocean confirmed yesterday that the \$460,000 (£200,000) monthly payment due from Mr Reksten, in whose name, it appears, the tanker is chartered, has not been received. The group is still holding discussions with representatives of Mr Reksten.

It is understood that he has been attempting to renegotiate his charter arrangement with Ocean on the basis of a further two months' hire and then termination. If Ocean were forced to lay up the Titan it is estimated that it could lose up to \$1m in pre-tax revenue in a full year on top of any interest costs.

It is unclear what headway, if any, has been made with discussions between the Norwegian shipowner and the owners of three other supertankers, Canadian Pacific, which owns the I D Sinclair chartered to Mr Reksten, would not comment yesterday except to confirm that discussions were continuing.

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## Signs of economic upturn

Tim Congdon

Signs of an upturn in the economy, shown by an index of leading indicators of the business cycle, are pinpointed in the new *Economic Trends*, the monthly publication of the Central Statistical Office. "Three of four leading indicators now show an upward movement," according to the CSO.

Publication of indices of business cycle indicators is a departure for the CSO, which has been concerned to redesign in this issue the index of the business cycle in the office's words, "the index that is easy to use by all those who need to be

kept in touch with broad movements in the economy."

Leading indicators are economic statistics which give advance warning of a revival or decline in business activity. The four indicators used by the CSO are the FT index, short-term interest rates, total housing starts and the net acquisition of financial assets by industrial and commercial companies.

Of these, three have picked up since December, while the net acquisition of financial assets by companies has been identified so far only until the third quarter of 1974, when it decreased.

## Fred's new post

Mr Fred Catherwood has accepted the invitation of Mr. J. H. B. Jones, Secretary of State for Trade, to become chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, with immediate effect. Fred, currently chairman of British Institute of Management, succeeds Lord Thomson, the founder chairman.

## Mr L. M. Harper Gow

Following our report yesterday based on "Examiner" sold 31,000 shares, Mr L. M. Harper Gow, the former Burmah Oil director concerned, points out that the shares were held in trust and were not sold but transferred by the trustees to the beneficiaries. We apologise for any embarrassment caused.

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## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## markets

## Shares shake off issues damper

Initially by the Prudential fund-raising, soon added to on a scale by the London stock market. The market was a useful, though technical rally yesterday, the main factor was a fresh talk of a wage freeze for the EEC referendum, an already firm bid, rather than next week's results, boosted Furness Withy 3p to 180p. A similar reason added 5p to Myson (88p) and 3p to the Brocks Group (59p). In the latter case 69p is being talked of as a likely offer price. In firm oils the best was Ultramar (up 13p to 165p), but Shell (with results next week), BP (where there are reports of a possible German stake) and Anglo Ecuador were 11p, 9p and 5p to the good.

Wage freeze rumours helped give in after-hours trading, after a dull day. Prices ended up much higher in "longs", but "shorts" were only able to recover early losses and score modest rises on the day.

"Shorts" opened at overnight levels, but slipped back by 1/16 or 1 point in the first hour of trading. They remained at the lower level for most of the day, with quiet trading conditions.

Equity turnover for May 6 was £65.94m (19,018 bargains). According to Exchange Telegraph active stocks yesterday were Lomho, ICI, GKN and Delta Metal new, Bata, Shell, BP, Ultramar, Commercial Union, Prudential, Lanchester, Rank "A" new, Anglo Thai Consolidated Gold, Ladbroke and Mothercare.

## Latest dividends

All dividends in new pence or appropriate currencies				
Company	Ord	Year	Pay	
(and par values)	div	ago	date	
Altitude (Inc) (50p)	6.45	5/7	16/7	9.43
Altitude (25p)	Nil	1.25		8.2
Altitude (100p) Fin	1.25	1.25		1.25
Brit Ind & Gen (25p) Int	1.56	1.56		4.03
Brooker & Hawkes (25p) Fin	3.66	3.37		5.65
City of Oxford (25p) Fin	3.2	2.6		3.28
CL&A (25p) Int	0.74	0.52	2/6	1.86
Coat Un Int (25p) Fin	2.01	1.49	21/6	2.84
Crowther & N (50p) Fin	Nil	0.16		Nil
Crowther & N (25p) Int	1.85	1.85	30/5	5.07
Dualvest (50p) Fin	2.89	2.5	31/5	5.64
Feb Int (10p) Fin	0.98	0.8	3/7	1.98
Foxes (25p) Fin	1.03	0.67		1.74
Gieves Gap (25p) Fin	1.73	1.58		2.17
Laporte (50p) Fin	4.52	2.7	14/7	7.54
Lds & Prov Shop (10p) Int	0.57	0.52	21/6	1.44
Lds & Prov Shop (25p) Fin	7.83	6.43		10.8
Mercantile Cred (25p) Int	Nil	1.68		1.68
Minty (25p) Fin	Nil	2.95		1.49
Phoenix (25p) Fin	1.55	1.44		8.1
Sainsbury (25p) Fin	4.38	3.88	31/7	5.68
Transvaal Cons (R1) Int	2.35	2.0c		5/5
Trust Union (25p) Fin	1.54	1.38	26/6	2.98
C & W Walker (25p) Fin	1.88	Nil		3.54







## Stock Exchange Prices

## Good rally by equities

ACCOUNT DAYS - Dealings Began, May 5. Dealings End, May 16. Contango Day, May 19. Settlement Day, May 23.  
 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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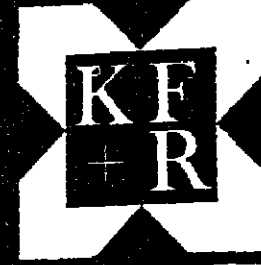
NDS			COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL			INSURANCE			INVESTMENT TRUSTS			OIL			PROPERTY			RUBBER			TEA			MISCELLANEOUS			SHIPPING			MINES			FINANCIAL TRUSTS			THE TIMES SHARE INDICES		
Code	Price	Change	Code	Price	Change	Code	Price	Change	Code	Price	Change	Code	Price	Change	Code	Price	Change	Code	Price	Change	Code	Price	Change	Code	Price	Change	Code	Price	Change	Code	Price	Change	Code	Price	Change	Index	Div.	Yield
100	100.00		100	100.00		100	100.00		100	100.00		100	100.00		100	100.00		100	100.00		100	100.00		100	100.00		100	100.00		100	100.00		100	100.00	100	100.00	100	100.00







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Wootton Bassett 3 miles, Glasgow 90 miles, Edinburgh 40 miles.

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(11505/TR)T

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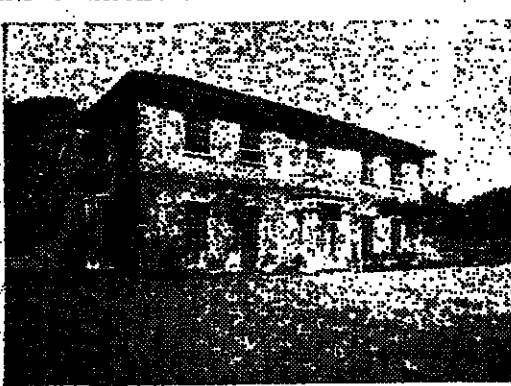
**FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 38 ACRES.**

(15773/ADB)T

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(66674/KM)T

By Direction of Frank Ifield, Esq.

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(67226/TR/J1)T

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(167360/KM)T

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## toring

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a company that rarely makes dimes, partly because it goes without a change of model. Yet, in the development of the car since its first model, the 92, to production 25 years ago.

For instance, the Saab 95/96, or to the 92 and retaining the bull-nose, became the first car class to be fitted with a dual braking system. Seven years since then, Saab's recurrent use of a headlamp wash-wipe on function car.

b's reputation for durability was lished during Eric Carlsson's racing in the early 1960s, including successive wins in the "Monte" 99 was added to the range in 1968 since then, Saab's reputation for durability, no new models have been added.

Today, with an annual output of 92,000 cars, Saab is the smallest independent manufacturer in Europe, yet it accounts for only a third of the turnover of a company which makes the Scania trucks, aircraft, missiles and computers. More in half the cars are exported, with United States and Britain the main markets outside Scandinavia. There has been speculation for some time that Saab might eventually join forces with its fellow Swedish manufacturer, Volvo. Both are smallish companies in car terms and as the model ranges do not directly compete, neither need lose the same again. Acquisition of DAF in Holland may have rendered a Saab-Volvo link less likely, though a research and technical agreement, like that between Renault and Peugeot, would still make sense.

Saab sales in Britain rose steadily to a peak of 10,762 in 1973, though last year, in a market affected by the energy crisis, only just over 6,000 cars were sold. The market share dropped as well. But Saab buyers do seem happy with their cars: 78 per cent of 99 owners, according to a *Which?* survey, said they would buy the same again, a degree of satisfaction matched only by the Peugeot 504.

For my own small celebration of Saab's silver jubilee I have taken a fresh look at the oldest model in the range, the 95 Estate. Any manufacturer keeping a car in production for 15 years without a body change is a rare thing, and the 95 must rank as one of the ugliest cars on the road. I wonder how many potential buyers take one look and shop elsewhere, though it cannot be many, or Saab would surely have come up with a new design long ago.

Again, I feel that some will be put off by the column gap, which is not, to put it mildly, one of the likeliest, or even the ugliest, of the car's features. The front end, having to put the car into reverse to extract the ignition key.

But if the 95 is hardly a thing of beauty and has its share of eccentricities, it is a car that grows on you when its virtues become apparent. As an estate it is roomy and versatile, offering good passenger and luggage space within an overall length (14 feet one inch) that seldom presents parking



The Saab 95 Estate—rugged, practical and versatile.

problems. Uniquely for a car of its size, it will seat up to seven people: two in the front, three in the middle and two more on a small bench seat facing the back.

The two back seats fold down to give maximum luggage area, 65 inches long, which is flat and easy to load. When the rear seat is not used, the footwells make an extra storage space. There is not a great deal of head and leg room in the middle seat and the car has only two side doors, though the backs of the front seats fold far enough forward to give reasonable access to the back. I did not put it to the test, but Saab claims that the car is so strongly built it will carry up to half a ton.

It starts instantly on the automatic choke and though rapid acceleration is the main feature of an estate, the 1.3 litre V4 engine performs well enough (0 to 60 mph in about 17 seconds) and there is good flexibility: the ability to pull away in third from about 15 mph saves a lot of gear-changing in traffic. The engine will cruise happily up to about 80 mph and is only really noisy when pushed hard.

Surprisingly for such an upright car, there is little wind noise on the open road. Fuel consumption must depend to some extent on the load, but I ranged from 24 mpg in town to a touring figure of 32. Fuel economy is helped a little by the free wheel, which means that there is no engine braking when you release the throttle; reduced engine wear is another benefit, and a third is being able to change gear without using the clutch.

Saab is often criticized for heavy steering, but I did not find that and the brakes gave a firm and progressive response. The car handles surely, with light and predictable understeer, and the tough suspension copes well with all but the worst potholes. The upright stance is more comfortable than they are, and the car grows on you when its virtues become apparent. As an estate it is roomy and versatile, offering good passenger and luggage space within an overall length (14 feet one inch) that seldom presents parking

## Aids to DIY

A few weeks ago when I commented on the growing trend towards do-it-yourself in car servicing and repairs, I felt it right to point out the dangers of embarking on jobs without sufficient knowledge. Several readers have since accused me of taking the wrong attitude: instead of regretting DIY, I should accept that more and more motorists will be forced into it by rising garage costs; and I should try to steer them towards greater proficiency. The point is taken.

There is nothing like learning practical things at first hand, so my initial piece of advice is to enrol for a course in car maintenance (many local authorities offer them) and supplement it with written instruction. Of the latter there is almost no end. Several manufacturers issue cheap and informative booklets on specialized aspects. Grilling, for instance, offers a 36-page *Guide to Brake Servicing* for 15p.

A new general book, which covers most of the basic jobs in picture strip form, is *Self-Servicing Your Car*, by Bill Caldwell (Nelson, 75p). But the best textbook is still, in my opinion, *The AA Book of the Car*, which gives a full and non-technical account of how a car works and how to look after it, and makes its points with excellent diagrams and photographs. It is well worth its £5.95 (£4.95 to AA members).

When you have mastered the basic principles, the next step is a manual giving detailed instructions for servicing your car. Of best value to the beginner is probably the series of *Owners' Workshop Manuals*, published by J. H. Haynes of Yeovil. The books are well illustrated, very detailed and written for the most part in layman's language. Nearly all popular cars are covered, at £2.95 a volume.

Another series of manuals, now available through British Leyland's Unipart outlets, is *Autobooks*. Published by Unipart, these manuals cover more than 200 titles and the price is again £2.95 a volume. *Autobooks* cover much the same ground as the Haynes manuals, but are not as well illustrated and assume more prior knowledge. The average motorist may get on better with the simpler and less detailed *Handbooks*, which sell at £1.25.

Peter Waymark



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Prof. Meyer

# WHAT MAKES A EUROPEAN NEWSPAPER TRULY EUROPEAN?

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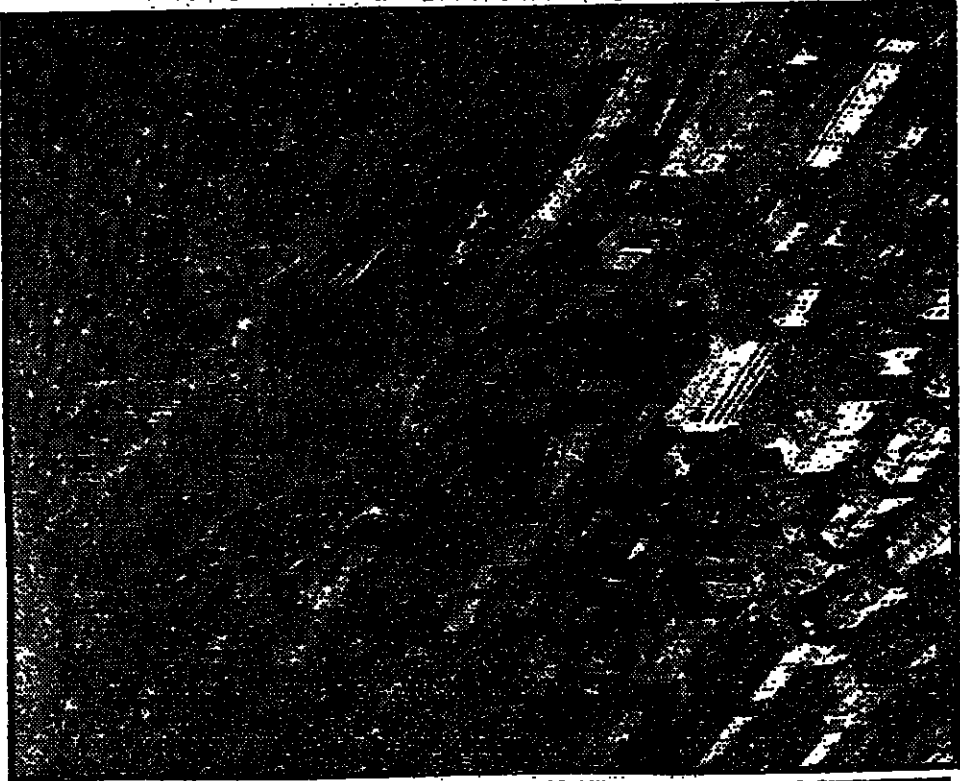
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Gang Gasser

## Small city with a big reputation

The name Zurich comes from Tiberian, the name of a Roman fortified camp which was situated on the Lindenhof, the hill overlooking the city. Zurich has 250,000 inhabitants, became a member of the Swiss confederation in 1351, governed itself, did as it liked, and went on prospering quietly as a city-state, never submitting to an overlord. Parts of the old city remain, but the only thing Zurich did not need—the three cathedrals, the lanes and alleys with their town houses, Zurich grew to become the largest city in Switzerland, the secretly accepted capital, while Bern is the federal capital, the first among equals.

Nowadays, when people think about Zurich, they do not think about the craft guilds, whose practical sense enabled them to control the affairs of the city until the times, nor of its 410,000 inhabitants, nor of the fact that one in ten of the population was Jewish, or around Zurich. No, nowadays they think about the money, they think about the banks, they think about the gold.

These malignantly vainglorious lines, so much attacked and feared by Labour leaders such as Mr Harold Wilson, are allegedly to be found in the walls of the Bahnhofstrasse over their treasure of francs, dollars and pounds, forever thinking up fresh Machiavellian schemes. The gold reserves of Zurich are estimated to be worth 100,000 million francs. The gold is stored in the vaults of the three big banks—the gold pool of the three big banks has left the city of Zurich a rich man. Only the gold is not the only thing Zurich has. Zurich has a reputation for being a city of bankers, but it is also a city of artists, of writers, of thinkers, of people who are not content with the material world.

The administration has had to abandon ideas of ring roads, new roundabouts, and an underground railway. Zurich's wealth is not in the gold, but in the people. The city has never set out to be a city of bankers, but it has become one. The city has always been a city of bankers, but it has always been a city of artists, of writers, of thinkers, of people who are not content with the material world.

The town which was an easy target for malicious comments, jumped a stage in its development. From being a small town, which was always European, never provincial, it had unwittingly become an international centre by the end of the 19th century. But never was it a "big city".

Geographical distances can often be deceptive. Zurich is, nearer Frankfurt or New York than St Gallen or Lausanne. Its hinterland is Kloten with its international airport, and the canton of the same name, with large areas of complete

the people of Zurich remain from then on with their feet planted with gold from their craft industries and trade, never relinquishing their dedication to the practical, never allowing themselves to dream, except of earthly things.

All exceptional politicians whose hands and feet were planted with gold from their craft industries and trade, never relinquishing their dedication to the practical, never allowing themselves to dream, except of earthly things.

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Le Monde  
LA STAMPA  
THE TIMES  
DIE WELT

# Europa

An economic monthly published in Britain, France, West Germany and Italy

Vol II No 8 May 1975

## Shared vision of cooperation



Edmund Maire



Heinz-Oskar Vetter

On the one hand Heinz-Oskar Vetter, 57 years old, navy blue suit, white shirt and tie, on the other Edmund Maire, aged 47, dressed in a heart of pine, a dark green jacket, a light blue shirt and a dark tie. These differences which M. Maire, the secretary of the Confédération Française Démocratique du Travail, and H. O. Vetter, the secretary of the Confédération Générale du Travail, both of whom are members of the European Parliament, discuss in this interview with Jacques Grapin and Jean-Louis Tixier, a member of the European Parliament, are not only differences of age, but also of vision.

From anything connected with politics and economics, M. Maire, who is a member of the European Parliament, is not only a member of the European Parliament, but also a member of the European Parliament. He is a member of the European Parliament, and he is a member of the European Parliament.

With an almost frail silhouette contrasting with a bantam-weight boxer's profile, this self-taught user of the language of intellectuals, M. Maire is constantly short of funds at the CPDT, stand about

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officer. From primary school, he went on to save a long apprenticeship before qualifying as a mechanic. At 20, he resumed his formal education and obtained his formal certificate after only two years at a secondary school. On being called up for military service, he found himself in a position to be released from the British war camp, went back to his job as a mechanic from May 1946 to October 1947, underground at the Robert Museret mine.

It was during this period that he joined the miners' union and became one of the delegates at Hupener Bergbau. He then enrolled at the Academy of Economics and Politics at Hamburg and followed a training course in the iron and steel industry. In 1952, he became secretary of the CPDT, a member of the Socialist Party. He was elected a member of the federal executive committee in 1958, and vice-president in 1960.

This brought him to the centre of the struggles over wage claims in the Ruhr and, when Herr Ludwig Rosenberg, declared on the ground of age to offer himself for reelection as president at the eighth congress of the CPDT, M. Maire was elected. He was re-elected on May 21, 1969 in Munich, by 267 votes to 427, including 133 from absentees. Five years later, he became president of the European Trade Union Confederation.

has become more difficult. To your trade union organizations on either side of the Franco-German border have a common position on this question?

Vetter: To begin with, if the official economic policy corresponded to the needs of the German trade union, it would be less unemployment in all sectors of our working population. Moreover, immigrant workers have more or less the same rights as Germans in the Federal Republic, so that the percentage of unemployed is roughly the same among nationals and immigrants.

continued on page IV

## On the contrary

Who said this to Europeans recently, referring among other things to Portugal and Vietnam?

It is not your liberty I am criticizing, but the way you surrender that liberty step by step. He added that since the Second World War the West had been guilty of abandoning an historic role simply in order to preserve its moral and material comfort.

Was it Senator Goldwater? Edward Heath? Franz Josef Strauss? Or Jean-Louis Tixier-Vignancour?

No. It was Alexander Solzhenitsyn. He, if anyone, had the right to say it. "Totalitarianism", he warned us, "is born from a weak and ill-prepared democracy."

Libya, British economic weakness is the reason for the sale. Deplore or approve in Ulster are an affront to the less unpunished murders in Ulster are an affront to the parties, the threat of left wing dictatorship in place of right wing tyranny remains real. And with Soviet "intelligence trailers" buzzing North Sea oil rigs, our feebleness looks dangerous as well as silly.

What is responsible, of course, is not democracy —nor even left wing extremism in Europe. The real enemy in our midst is a mixture of laziness, selfishness and pathetic trust in the good will of competitors and enemies. If we lose our liberties, the social demagogues will be to blame.

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# Builders hit hardest

# Born New firms go to wall

The spectre of bankruptcy is once more haunting the U.S. economy. In many areas of financial activity, failures, boils of firms and lost valuations, rose to the highest figures since the war.

Altogether 7,722 bankruptcy cases were brought before the courts in 1974, a 10 per cent increase on the 7,000 cases in 1973. In addition, settlements and foreclosures reached 2,207 or 40 per cent, over the previous year. And in 1973 there were already 940, or about 20 per cent, more case filings in 1972.

If the 1974 figures are compared with 1972, the last year in which all the statistics were kept at bay, this increase is not very startling. It reaches 70 per cent. Until then, the record number was still 5,802, declared in 1951, the year of the Korean War.

There was a particularly sharp increase in the number of company

**London**

A multinational holding company has been formed by a European consortium for the manufacture and sale of trucks and buses. IVECO (Industrial Vehicles Corporation) is the outcome of a cooperation agreement between the Fiat group (Fiat, OM, Lancia and the French company Unic) and Magirus-Deutz in West Germany.

**£900m new  
boilworks**

expansion or reconstruction of small and medium-size businesses in the Mezzogiorno. It is intended

## Paris

amounted to 36 million tonnes, a mere 0.1 per cent less than the output of the previous year. Forecasts had, however, predicted an increase in production of 6 per cent. This stagnation is caused by the downturn in the building industry, one of the sectors to have suffered most from the crisis.

in the economic situation number of declared bankrupt among industrial companies actually went down, whereas

# New firms go to wall

**Race hurdles**

My out research is being completed from four or course which students have of direction in on in Brussels, which will soon be which are

British. Medical standards were the same in Britain as on the Continent, he said, some feeling, however, that the standards of nursing education in the Italian medical schools.

Britain's architects appear to have reservations about equating their degrees and diplomas with Italy. Mr Alexander Gordon, a

nurses. Miss Exton, of the General Medical Council, said the majority of nurses with knowledge of English.

## Skilled foreign workers face hurdles

## Mutual recognition welcomed

He said the association had played a full part in the years of depression. Mutual recognition will probably be introduced at the end of 1976, making the doctors the first professional body to take that step. For the past three years British doctors have held the top

# VIEWPOINT

100

## Gerard Lauzin

10

How that they have nothing to work much less, what do all people dream about? Why

Figure 1

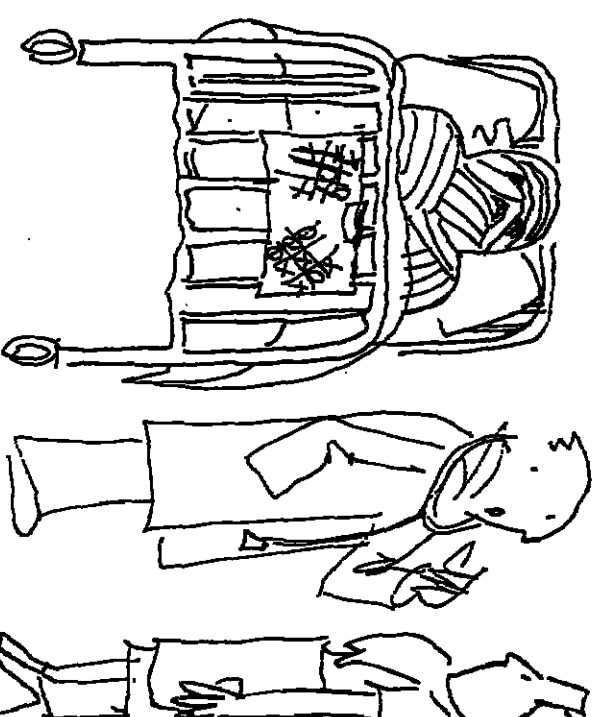
### Organizing Leisure Activities

s of capitalism.

1000

# EXECUTIVE AIRCRAFT

1. *Chlorophyll a* and *Chlorophyll b* were determined by the method of Arar and Collins (1987).





# On this and the facing page 'Europa' looks at the interchangeability of diplomas

## Bonn

### Guidelines formulated only for doctors

Anyone, German or not, who has West German university qualifications in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, or other health professions, can apply for recognition of their qualifications in the Federal Republic of Germany. The process is governed by the German Basic Law and the laws of the various states. The guidelines for recognition are formulated only for doctors, but the same principles apply to other health professions. The process involves a comparison of the foreign qualifications with the German standards. If they are found to be equivalent, the foreign holder can practice in Germany. If not, they may need to complete additional training or examinations.



HE'S ONE OF EUROPE'S TOP CONSULTANTS

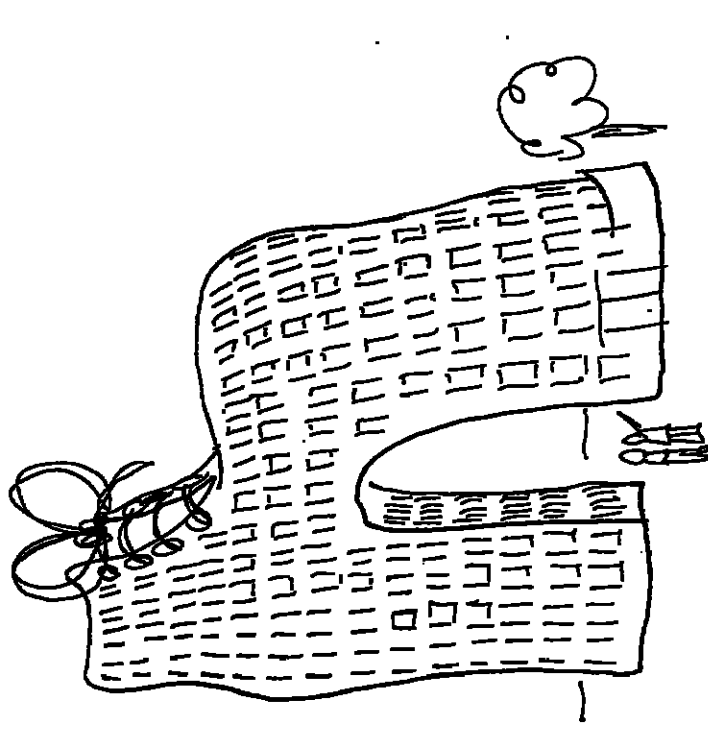
The state universities of medicine in Germany are responsible for the recognition of foreign qualifications. In most cases, however, institutions of higher learning decide whether or not to accept a foreign holder. The process is often a matter of mutual agreement between the foreign holder and the German institution. The guidelines for recognition are formulated only for doctors, but the same principles apply to other health professions. The process involves a comparison of the foreign qualifications with the German standards. If they are found to be equivalent, the foreign holder can practice in Germany. If not, they may need to complete additional training or examinations.

H. J. Melder

## Rome

### Care for emigrant families' interests

The following is a typical example of the mutual recognition of qualifications in the case of a Dutch subject who had qualified in Belgium and wished to practice in the Netherlands. The process involves a comparison of the foreign qualifications with the Dutch standards. If they are found to be equivalent, the foreign holder can practice in the Netherlands. If not, they may need to complete additional training or examinations. The process is often a matter of mutual agreement between the foreign holder and the Dutch institution. The guidelines for recognition are formulated only for doctors, but the same principles apply to other health professions. The process involves a comparison of the foreign qualifications with the Dutch standards. If they are found to be equivalent, the foreign holder can practice in the Netherlands. If not, they may need to complete additional training or examinations.



I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE ARCHITECT STUDIED IN ITALY

Felice Frolo

## Paris

### Abrupt halt to growth

With the oil crisis, recession and credit restrictions, few French firms have emerged unscathed from the recent phase of the economy. A clear indicator of the general deterioration of the situation is the number of bankruptcies and compulsory liquidations. In 1973, there were 3,661 company failures, which was 26 per cent higher than in 1972. According to the statistics published in the Bulletin Officiel des Annonces Commerciales, there were 11,974 bankruptcies and compulsory liquidations in 1974 compared with 9,411 in 1973. More significantly, the national failure rate (the number of all companies) rose from 0.54 per cent in 1973 to 0.63 per cent in 1974.

Not all industries have been affected to the same extent. The hardest hit has been building and civil engineering, where the failure rate has risen from 0.67 per cent to a record 0.92 per cent, followed by a record 0.92 per cent in 1974. Other industries (0.76 per cent) and the average (0.61 per cent) have also shown a sharp rise, from 0.42 per cent in 1973 to 0.55 per cent in 1974.

The measures introduced to cool the economy after the presidential elections have led to a sharp drop in demand for building and civil engineering. The effect of the measures has been to reduce the number of projects and to delay the start of many projects. This has led to a sharp drop in demand for building and civil engineering. The effect of the measures has been to reduce the number of projects and to delay the start of many projects.

Die Welt

## In prospect

This spring, Europe can do no more than keep body and soul together. This is not the time for any new initiatives and when the breakdown of the Paris talks could be a sign of a new phase in the term aspects of the world economy which will have little scope for action.

The foreign ministers cannot embark on any major projects until the question of the Community has been resolved. The Community is the only institution capable of bringing the European countries together in a common front. The Community is the only institution capable of bringing the European countries together in a common front.

Philippe Lemaire

La Monnaie

La Monnaie

La Monnaie

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## Facts and figures

Our graph of industrial production—even if it is not rising, at least indicates that the extent of the depression in the former European countries is less marked. A temporary recovery is being experienced in the West, and the loss of the first half of the year has not yet fallen in its seasonally adjusted figures.

This has been accompanied by the commoner favorable sign, the continued rise in the number of vacancies. In the United States, for example, the number rose to 750,000 at the end of December, and in the United Kingdom, to 250,000 in March. And there can mean only one thing: that employers are recruiting more men in orders for capital goods since the beginning of 1935.

There is a danger, however, of hoping in vain for a turning of the tide, which could be anticipated on the basis of this partial data available at the beginning of last month. Unfortunately, an examination of the situation in the United States, and the situation in the United Kingdom, if not actually later, action to refine its economy is not as encouraging.

Like Germany, the United States is still showing favourable signs: stocks are levelling off, orders are rising, interest rates are coming down, and unemployment is falling 7 per cent. Nevertheless, production continues to fall in the first quarter of 1975. The national product is declining at an annual rate of 10 per cent and unemployment is about 9 per cent or 10 per cent. So it is clear that whereas Germany has a plausible potential driving force behind recovery in the western world, the United States still represents a threat to recovery. Not only is it failing to reinvigorate production, but the falling exchange value of the dollar is causing some European industry to consider a serious threat from their American counterparts, such as the textile industry, which is taking advantage of relatively lower labour costs and a favourable price for sulphur, or the aeronautical industry.

The main reason why many industrial nations persistently attach importance to slowing improvement before the second half of 1975, Italy, Britain and France are struggling to maintain activity and avoid complete disorientation. On their own, they are not in a position to open up new markets, they cannot afford to subsidise, or they have limited measures available to them to restore their economies.

The relative success achieved in Italy is continuing, especially in the area of the trade balance, where the deficit is being eroded by a very swiftly and increasingly growing export situation. The strategy being applied is comparable to that adopted by Franco for a general austerity programme, vigorously applied, but tempered by action to support a limited number of carefully selected industries, such as building and farming, which are expected to create an emergence gradually from a vicious circle.

There is also significance in the fact that Italy appears to be winning the psychological game. It has acquired a measure of international creditworthiness by regaining the credit of its repaying countries, and is being forced by its recent abolition of import deposits, which also provided a boost to activity by pumping back into the economy the £1,200,000 lire which had been frozen in the central bank. Although the country has fallen behind the economy has nevertheless managed to derive some benefits which is still far from being the case in Britain. The contrast between the two is becoming increasingly pronounced (as shown by our graphs), which are rising at a rate of nearly 30 per cent a year, while in Britain is losing its grip on the situation.

The Budget, presented on April 15, should have been the occasion of a clear reappraisal of economic policy, but only served to illustrate the difficulty of laying down firm guidelines under such circumstances. Consequently, Britain has little hope in the short term of throwing off the reflation-inflation dilemma by which it is bedevilled. Moreover, the results which it is

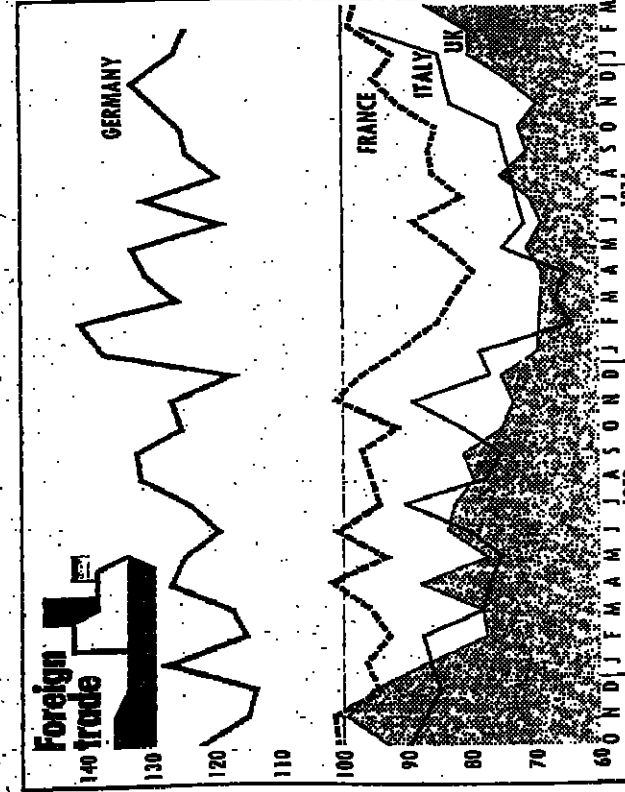
# America a threat to western recovery

	Rate of growth	Quality of growth	Maintenance of growth	Vulnerability to external factors (1)
	Priorities	Unemployment	Productive capacity	Foreign trade
GERMANY	Excellent Good Fairly good Poor Bad Very bad Prev. performance	● ● ● ● ● ● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ □	● ● ● ● ● ● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ □	● ● ● ● ● ● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ □
FRANCE	Excellent Good Fairly good Poor Bad Very bad Prev. performance	● ● ● ● ● ● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ □	● ● ● ● ● ● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ □	● ● ● ● ● ● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ □
ITALY	Excellent Good Fairly good Poor Bad Very bad Prev. performance	● ● ● ● ● ● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ □	● ● ● ● ● ● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ □	● ● ● ● ● ● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ □
BRITAIN	Excellent Good Fairly good Poor Bad Very bad Prev. performance	● ● ● ● ● ● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ □	● ● ● ● ● ● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ □	● ● ● ● ● ● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ □

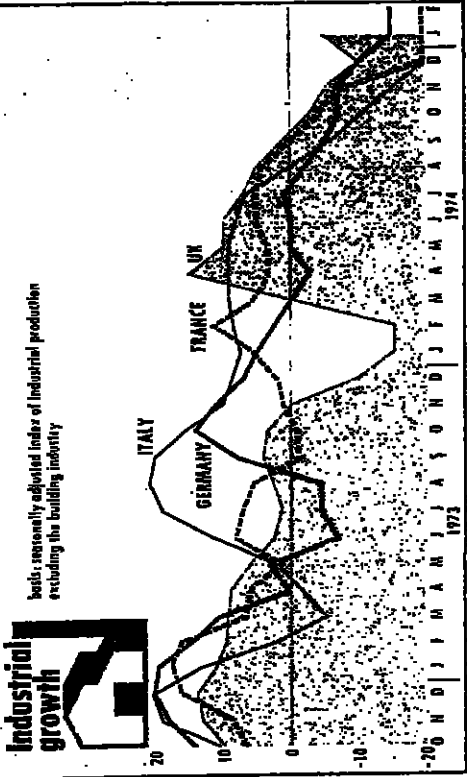
(OECD figures calculated on an job-cliff basis)

**INDUSTRIAL GROWTH.** The decline in production continues in all four countries, although at a much slower rate since January 1975. Britain has returned to an annual negative growth rate of -5 per cent, France to -10 per cent and

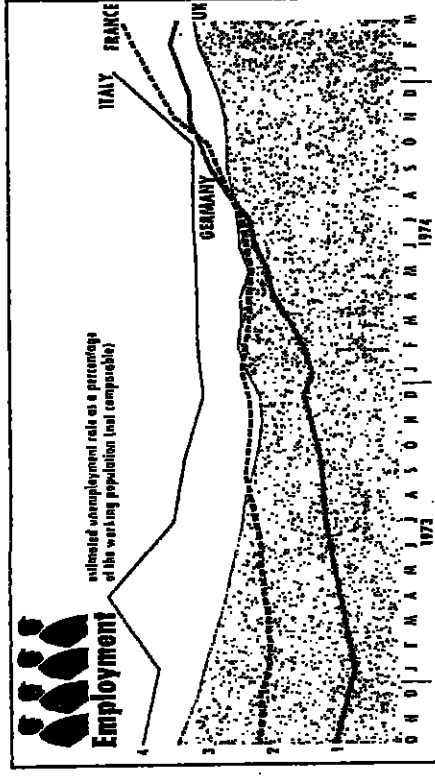
**PRICES.** The average rate of inflation in Britain is still falling, being 3.5 per cent at the end of February. France and Italy have reduced their inflation rates to 2.5 and 2.2 per cent respectively, while Germany is down to 6 per cent. Only Britain has gone against the present trend, with inflation running at more than 23 per cent.



**Industrial growth**  
basis: seasonally adjusted index of industrial production excluding the building industry



10



managing to achieve in certain areas, such as a better balance of trade position brought about without much merit by a reduction of imports, still remain much more fragile than those of other countries.

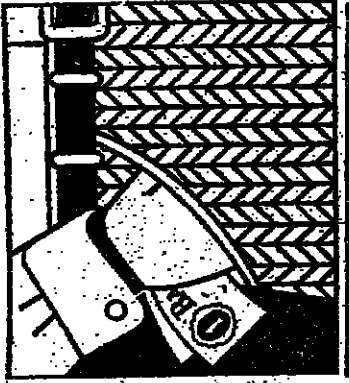
It goes without saying that Britain can scarcely contribute to the recovery of the world economy, and that it is not in a position to grant to a more significant and extensive, are making some effort in that direction. With the measures adopted on April 23, France has entered a new phase of its programme, which perhaps marks a change of strategy: until now the Government has been working for the balance of trade position and curb inflation.

As regards the first of these, there has been counting, in order to be able to take action itself, without factory since, as our graph shows, the break-even point was all but proving to be, for in arriving at the end of March, it all depends on the United States.

With the change of direction initiated on April 23, France is basically banking on spending its way out of trouble. That is a tricky proposition, since it involves getting the economy to grow faster than when its markets are in doubt, the plant is under-used, its level of indebtedness is high and its ability

But can France and Germany whose economies are so closely bound up with the economic system of the West, generate enough impetus to escape from the vicious circle? The United States alone possesses the economic weight capable of launching a recovery in the western world. But, as has been mentioned, growth in America is proving slow to materialize. A clear recovery is not in sight and the stimulus to the West will be difficult to maintain throughout most of 1975.

## Personal finance



Lack of legal safeguards has tended to inhibit the small investor. Radical changes are now giving the shareholder more protection

**Stock exchange** and investment experts believe that one of the reasons why millionaires put very little of their money into stocks and shares is the lack of adequate safeguards which the law provides for the small investor. The statements are far too brief and often vague, consolidated results are very seldom given, and proposals for increasing the capital, mergers or structural transformations are announced with only the barest explanatory details.

What is more, except in the case of the buying up of Baslelog shares—initiated by the financier Georges Simphon in virtual defiance of the law—small investors remain in the end—small investors have never themselves shared in the profits made by powerful groups of shareholders when large packages of shares change hands, outside the stock exchange.

Last June Parliament approved a series of measures, known as Law No 2316, which was intended to put new life into the stock exchange and to prevent the harmful effects and fluctuations which have recently been caused by the market. It has caused a public outcry, and have led even more averse to keep away from the stock exchange. The provisions include the introduction of a new system of control over share purchases, which small investors had been loudly demanding for some time, and, as was done in France in 1967, the setting up of a National Council for the Stock Exchange (Conseil National de Bourse).

This has ample powers to reform stock exchange procedure, to keep a check on companies with shares quoted on the stock exchange, and to regulate finance companies in general.

However, the five members of the commission were appointed only a few weeks ago, and the final version of the legal provisions under which they are to operate, has not yet been issued. At the end of March, the official Gazette, as it is still in need of a few finishing touches.

It is intended that finance companies shall adopt the same accounting methods as banks, strictly speaking, and the finance companies serve in their stead, though often they are ineffective operators, and are consequently largely discredited to them by small investors.

Balance sheets produced by companies quoted on the stock exchange will have to be verified by official certifiers of accounts, but expert opinion does not consider that the new regulations will suffice for the complete protection of shareholders, and looks on them merely as an improvement over the largely token system of checks hitherto operated by boards of auditors.

All the same, an important step forward has been taken along the road 'towards a proper' and

This is why in some instances—when the market is in a panic—speculators, holding the way and the means to get out, have sold off their back large packages of shares at predictably high prices. Unfortunately, though, once they have been successful the speculators are tempted to embark on other ventures, while the irregular behaviour of the stock exchange and the fluctuations of the market will further the ones who are only interested in the market as a source of investment.

The professional attendants at the company meetings recently across the board, in hitherto untrodden paths, have been a pure formality, but now, particularly in the Swiss, things have changed. The atmosphere of these annual meetings in Switzerland have been a pure formality, but now, particularly in the Swiss, things have changed. The atmosphere of these annual meetings in Switzerland have been a pure formality, but now, particularly in the Swiss, things have changed.

who some years ago attended the annual general meeting of a large company and set about criticizing and applauding all at the same time the activities of the board. A day or two after the meeting a letter of thanks arrived by a chairman, accompanied by a cheque for 500,000 lire. This gave him a taste for it, and he is now earning a great deal of money, and is one of the more interesting persons from the floor.

Then there are the American-style professionals, lawyers who vote against acceptance of the balance sheet, threaten to take the matter to court, and are prepared to retract only on certain conditions. But this nice, easy living will soon be coming to an end. The Act on limited liability companies and the stock exchange provides that a qualified minority can challenge the accounts.

Lastly, there are the pockets of who corner a large number of shares, representing 10 per cent and more of the total equity, and who then do battle with the majority holders, and demand that their shares should be taken off them at a favourable price.

Legislation on equity compensation is out of date, and there is an opportunity to correct this. Many of the problems that have caused the balance sheets of directors' companies to be tested even if on purely formalistic grounds, and long-drawn-out cases taken before the court can be extremely damaging for a company, and its shareholders, and its financial activities.

systematic method of control over companies quoted on the stock exchange, and Consob is now expected to bring out reforms of the methods of operation on the stock exchange—still subject to an

In the past few years some fairly radical changes have been introduced in the Securities Act of 1933 to protect the interests of the small investor, but here too it cannot be said that he is afforded complete protection. Only the Securities Act, setting up of the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Securities Operations, the Securities Exchange Act, and the Securities Exchange Act, do exercise a more thorough control over takeover operations (public offers, to shareholders to buy them out or exchange other shares), and of the acquisition of shares by individuals, companies, which must in some cases be made known to the public or shareholders, sufficient disclosure must be published to enable a full examination of the question by the public. Ordinary shareholders are provided with notes which give him a detailed and so easier to follow.

A step in the right direction was also taken in Germany with the enactment of a law in 1965, though this is concerned mainly with the rights of minority shareholders to call extraordinary meetings (for which a 5 per cent vote is enough), to examine the activities of a company, and in particular to obtain a valuation of its assets (a 10 per cent vote required), or to refuse to agree to an increase of capital (25 per cent).

Shareholders can, of course, attend general meetings, and resolutions and balance sheets can be

contested in the courts. It is a source of regret that company general meetings in Italy are very thinly attended by shareholders, and these are frequently looked on as a ritual to be gone through rather than as offering an opportunity for a frank exchange of views and information between directors and the shareholders. This position is not much different in France, Germany and Britain. Few people attend meetings and the shareholders are

mosty families who have a large number of people who live in the same house, together with the old people, who are usually the most conservative from a savings accumulation point of view, and the shareholder who has come into the business to ask one or two specific questions. Investment specialists are employed by the principal shareholders, and they usually find that when they meet members of the household, the members of the household are not interested in the approval of the resolutions. In the general meeting, the vote is usually cast by the shareholders virtually as a bloc, and the shareholders, since the representatives are elected by the bank representatives who act as proxies, vote for a large number of proxies. In 1960, for example, there were 1,000 proxies, and there were 100 shareholders.


Where the position is different in Italy is in the existence of professional attenders at annual general meetings. They exist elsewhere, in an organized sense, only in the United States, where they are a problem for boards of directors; specialist lawyers follow closely the fortunes of various companies, attend their annual general meetings and often find an opportunity to contest the validity of

There are several distinct types among professionals of this ilk operating in Italy. There are those on their own who interrupt the business at company general meetings with a long series of questions—there is no time limit on these interruptions. There are

imposed on speakers at these meetings. They may even start to appear among the people, and they may be known to the directors, who often seek to keep them under control, see them a day or two before the meeting, and let them see in advance the balance sheet and the report on the directors' activities. They may be asked to carry out purely nominal duties. It is a form of activity that can be paid good dividends, and one which others are easily tempted to follow in. There was the time of John D. Rockefeller, a great exhibitor of shareholderism; a great exhibitor

# NEBRASKA?

**It's  
right  
in the  
centre  
of  
the US**



That makes it a natural for industrial plant locations, as many international firms are discovering. And we would greatly appreciate the opportunity to explain the advantages of a Nebraska plant location to you in a personal and confidential meeting. Our Nebraska representative, Mr. Rod Moesman, will be in Europe until May 17. He will be happy to call on you to provide you with information and assistance. For a copy of our literature, or to arrange a meeting with Mr. Moesman, please contact:

**London**—Ardile Andrews, U.S. Embassy, Bonn-Bad Godesberg, Phone: 429-9000  
**Quaiet**—Quaiet Coontz, U.S. Embassy, Bonn-Bad Godesberg, Phone: 422-21-0856  
**Paris**—Ms. Georgiella Auler, U.S. Embassy, Paris, Phone: 285-7400 Ext. 7248

**State of Nebraska, Nebraska Department of Economic Development,  
Box 91762-1302, State Capitol, Lincoln, Nebraska USA 68599,  
(405) 477-8984**



Consumer interest

# The South of France



## Stricter curbs for advertisers

The growing awareness of consumer protection issues has focused attention on advertisements and what can and cannot be said in them. It is argued that the consumer must be protected from the advertiser's information and that the advertiser should be accurate and fairly presented.

All sides of the industry are aware that this has not always been the case. The history of advertising is littered with examples of false and misleading statements, often in an attempt to make people part with their money.

One of the first examples of an advertiser being forced to live up to his claims occurred in 1911 when the *Lancet* reported that a certain brand of cigarettes was "scientifically" used by a disappointed customer.

Lancet's advertisement said: "New hair in 72 hours. Letrick's Electric Comb. Great news for hair sufferers. When your hair is grey, it turns black in 72 hours. It is a hair comb? Covered with new hair in 72 hours. £500 guarantee. It is a hair comb? Covered with new hair in 72 hours. £500 guarantee. It is a hair comb? Covered with new hair in 72 hours. £500 guarantee."

Combs are in daily use—all grades of society. From the ivory of the dowry to the one for the do-it-yourselfer. It is a hair comb? Covered with new hair in 72 hours. £500 guarantee. It is a hair comb? Covered with new hair in 72 hours. £500 guarantee. It is a hair comb? Covered with new hair in 72 hours. £500 guarantee.

The voluntary regulations operate against a background of legal controls. There are no restrictions on the content of advertisements in the United Kingdom. The only restriction is the one imposed by the law of libel, which prohibits the publication of statements which are defamatory of an individual or a body of persons.

The German law on advertising is much more specific and restrictive. It is a legal requirement that advertisements must not refer to competitors either directly or indirectly, in a way that might interfere with the latter's competitive chances.

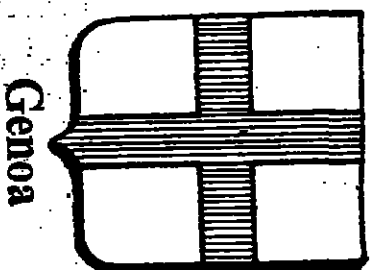
In the case of particular services, including their cost, the advertiser must provide information. In Germany, such as medical services, the advertiser must provide information about the cost of the service. In all three countries, advertisements on television and radio are subject to more stringent controls than those in other media. That is partly because of the influence of the mass media on the public mind. But it is also partly because most European broadcasting systems are under government administration and controls are more easily regulated.

In Britain, there is an average of six minutes in hour, with a maximum of seven minutes, for a commercial spot. There are no sponsored programmes. In France, the amount of time for advertising is limited to 10 per cent of the total broadcast time.

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON ADVERTISING, 1972 (\$USM)**

	France	Germany	Italy	Britain
Total	1680	2837	650	1220
Press	688	1533	148	431
TV	148	946	111	111
Radio	148	946	111	111
Other	148	946	111	111

Source: International Advertising Association World Advertising Expenditure 1974 Edition.



Genoa

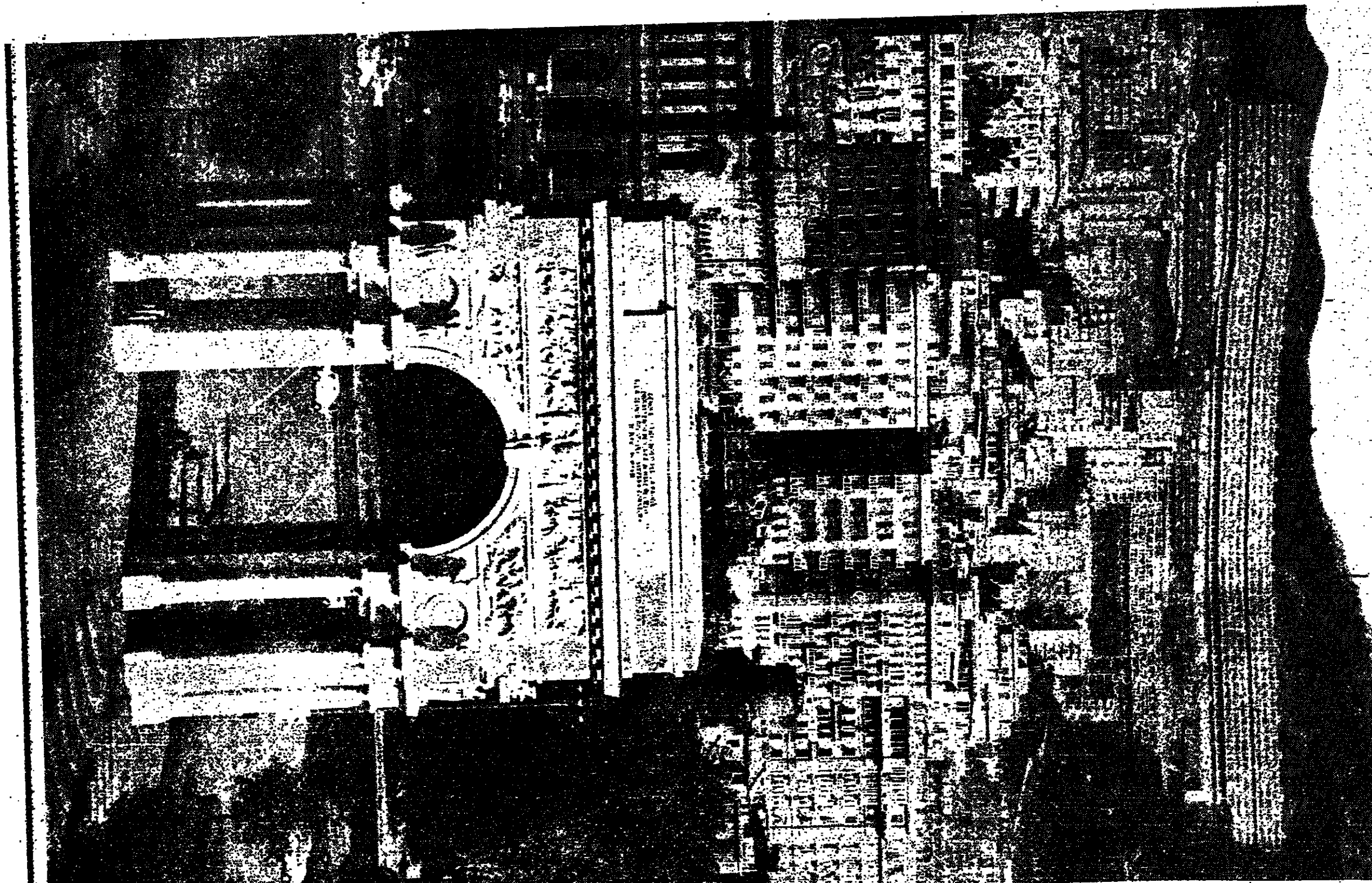
Genoa has 800,000 inhabitants living in an area of about 35 square miles. It is a city of contrasts, with a historic centre and a modern suburb. The city is known for its maritime heritage and its role in the development of the Italian Republic.

The most recent of the city's history is the development of the city as a modern metropolis. The city has a long history of maritime trade and has been a major port since the 15th century. The city has a rich cultural heritage and is home to many museums and galleries.

The city has a long history of maritime trade and has been a major port since the 15th century. The city has a rich cultural heritage and is home to many museums and galleries.

increase and the number of deaths exceeds the daily record of deaths. The city has a long history of maritime trade and has been a major port since the 15th century. The city has a rich cultural heritage and is home to many museums and galleries.

According to the motor insurance office, there are 230,000 cars on the city's roads. The city has a long history of maritime trade and has been a major port since the 15th century. The city has a rich cultural heritage and is home to many museums and galleries.



**Contact Georgia, U.S.A., in Brussels**

Georgia, U.S.A., welcomes inquiries and visits from European businessmen. If you're planning a trip to our state, our full-service office in Brussels can make your stay more pleasant and profitable. We'll help you in setting up appointments, please contact:

Mr. John L. Tumbille  
Managing Director, European Office  
Georgia Dept. of Community Development  
Rue Du Congrès 33  
1000 Brussels Belgium  
Phone: 1 38 5016 & 10 34 34  
Telex: 1 2327 EUROPA J.

**GEORGIA, U.S.A.**







Large cities are ungovernable. This has become an international cliché. Even geographical location (as in the case of Genoa) can have its effects.

It is one thing to say that the problems of large cities are different from those of small cities. It is quite another to say that the problems of large cities are more serious than those of small cities. The reason for this is that the problems of large cities are more complex and more varied than those of small cities.

Looking for common factors, one immediately thinks of four cities in Europe which have been particularly hard hit by Europe's economic problems. These are London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Genoa. The figures are substantially the same in all four cities. The unemployment rate is between 10 and 12 per cent. The population is between 1 and 2 million. The gross domestic product is between £100 and £200 million.

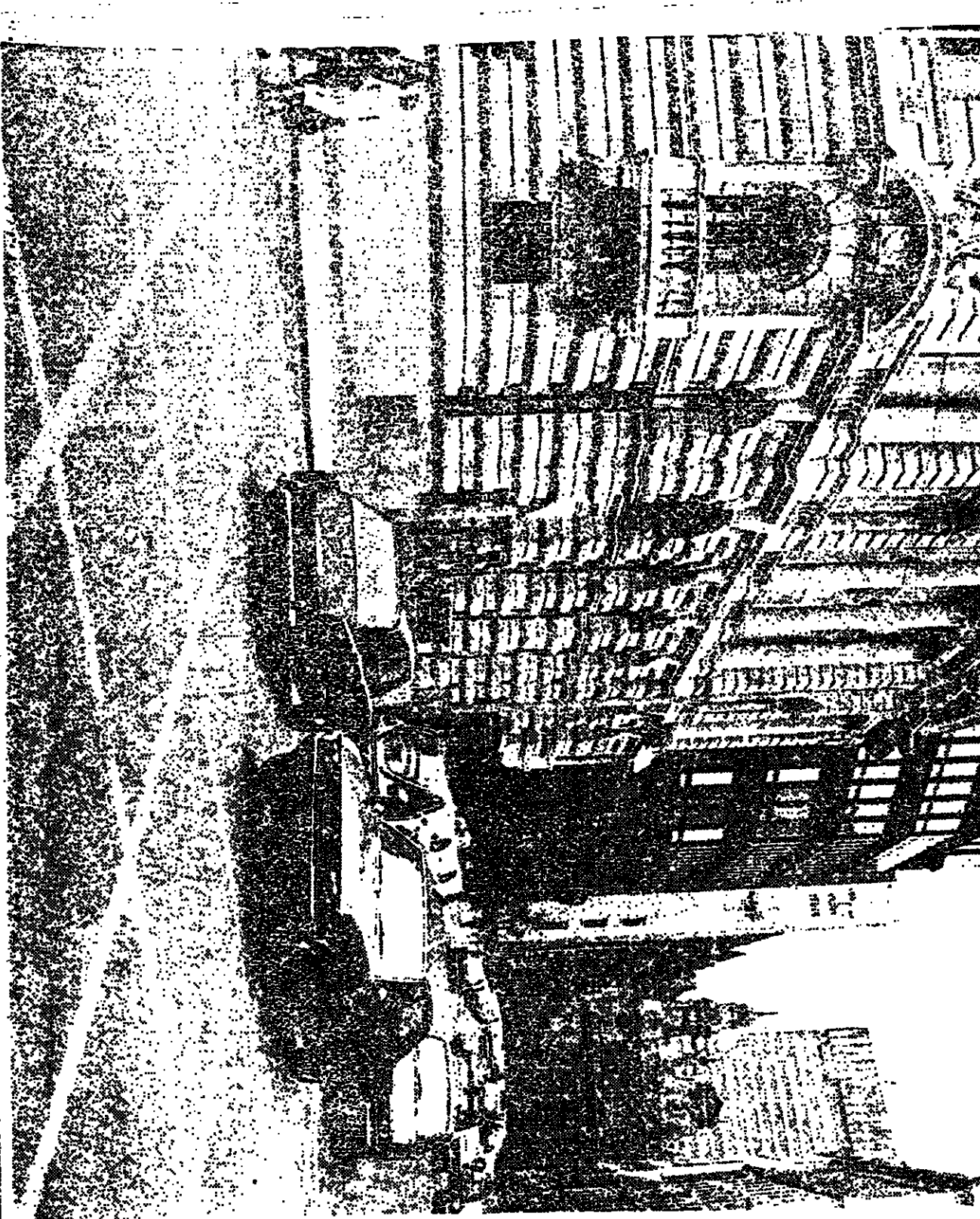
These four cities have a lot in common. They are all large cities. They are all in Europe. They are all facing similar problems.

# Four variations on a theme



Manchester

Manchester, best known perhaps for its two football teams, City and United, and for the Ship Canal which joins it to the sea, is the sixth largest English city, and its municipal undertaking is thus an important one. The population of 1,000,000 over the past decade, reflecting its changing activities and in part the affluence which has taken many people into the surrounding countryside. An indication of this is that some 160,000 people travel into the city three times a week. The population of the city itself is 400,000, and the city council has a budget of £200 million.



Manchester is a city of contrasts. It is a city of industry and commerce, of science and technology. It is a city of culture and education. It is a city of beauty and history. It is a city of opportunity and challenge.

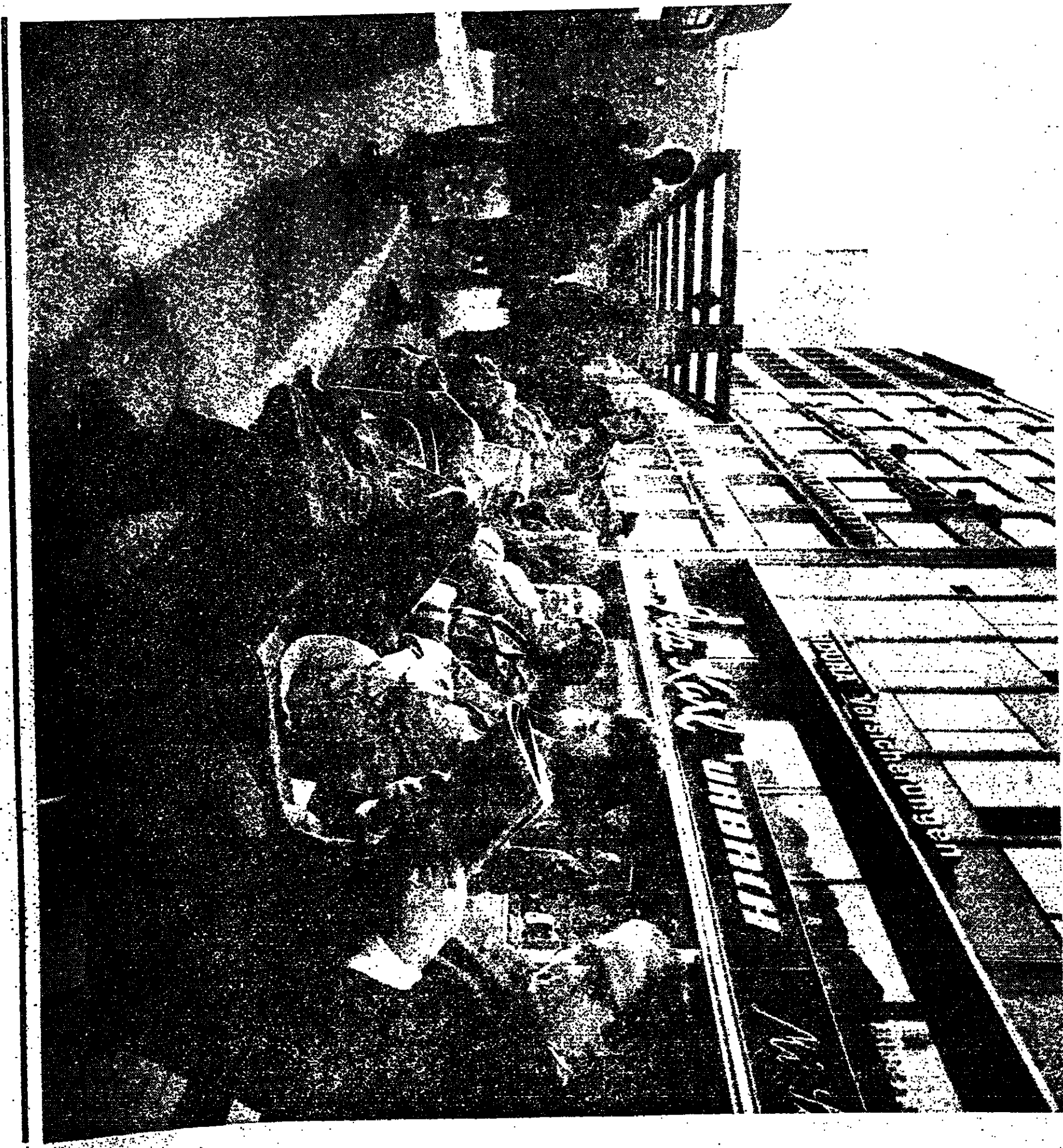
Christopher Wrenman  
The Times



Frankfurt

In West Germany, however, discussion turns to the problem of large cities. Frankfurt is invariably cited. It is neither the largest nor the most important city in Germany, but it is the most important city in the Federal Republic. It is a city of contrasts. It is a city of industry and commerce, of science and technology. It is a city of culture and education. It is a city of beauty and history. It is a city of opportunity and challenge.

Frankfurt is indebted to the amount of DM1,500m. The 1975 budget allocations include 200m for capital expenditure, interest and other payments. There is an additional sum of DM1,500m for interest payments. The city's transport and energy utilities, for the foreseeable future, there is no way of escape from this burden of debt. Rates of tax levied by the municipality are steadily rising. The city's economy is in a state of stagnation. The city's population is declining. The city's future is uncertain.



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